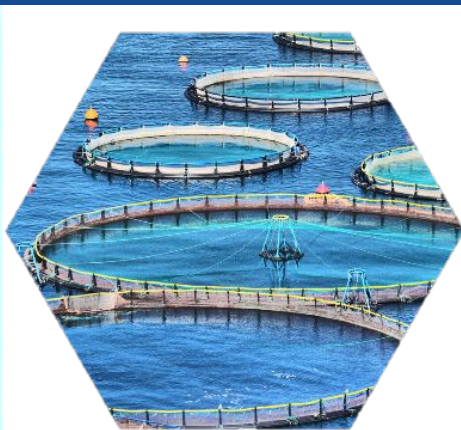
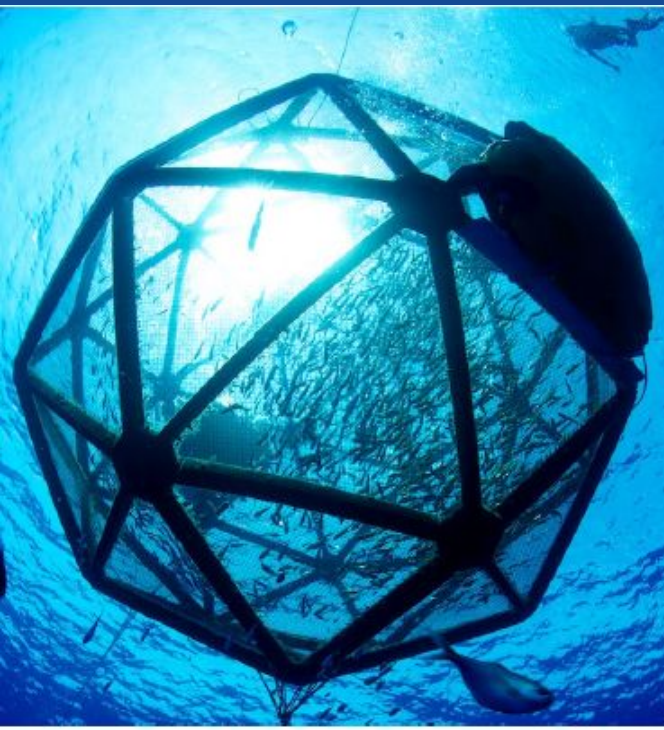




# Blue Water Fisheries Revised Site Analysis



**NCCOS** | NATIONAL CENTERS FOR  
COASTAL OCEAN SCIENCE

NOAA Office for Coastal Management  
NOAA National Centers for Coastal and Ocean Science  
[James.Morris@noaa.gov](mailto:James.Morris@noaa.gov)

# Background / Farm Requirements

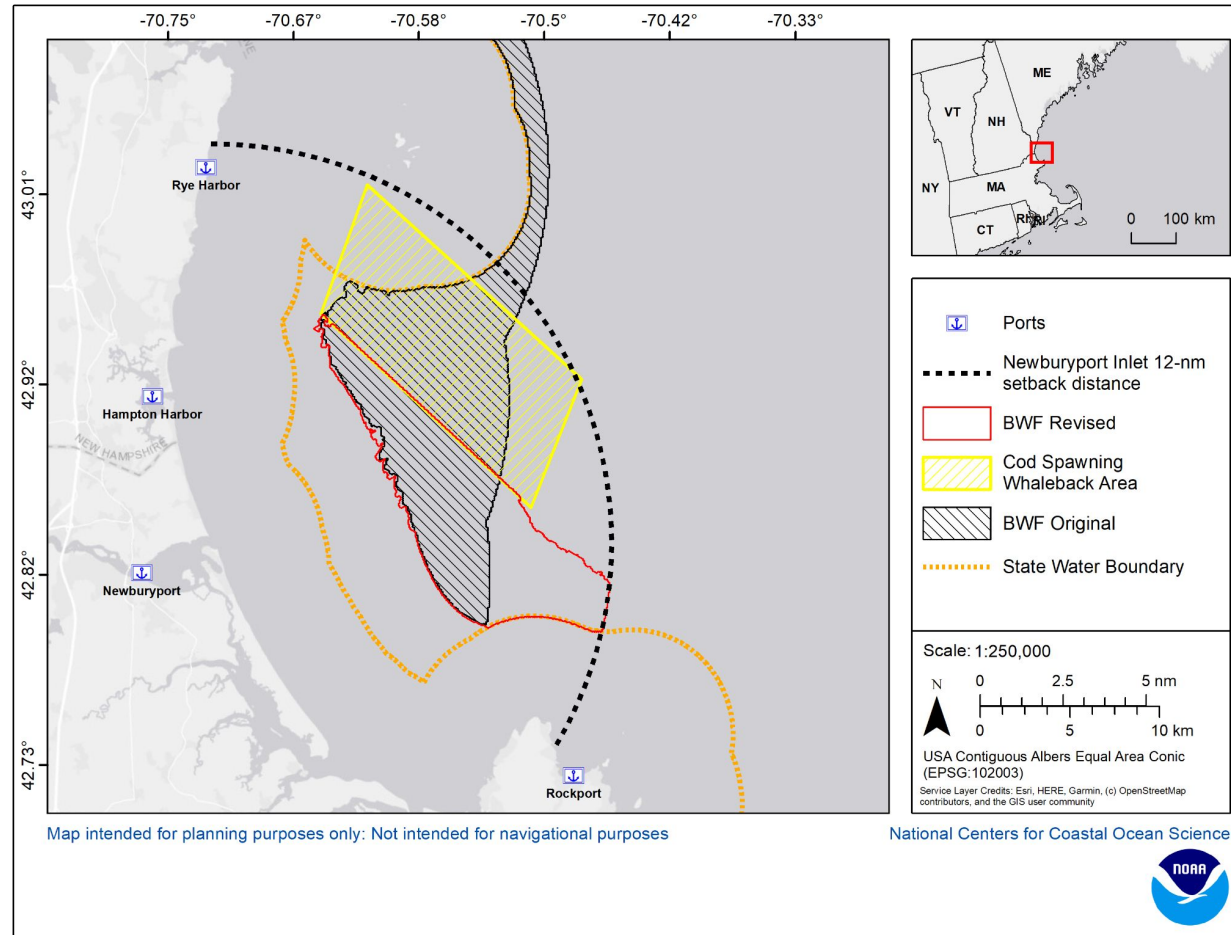
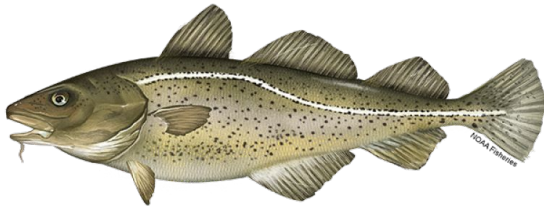
- Fall 2019 - Initial meetings with NCCOS and BWF
- Nov 2019 - Oct 2020 - Spatial Analysis and iterations completed
- Nov 2020 - Final Report Pre-Applications meetings
- Jan-Mar 2023 - Updated spatial analysis

CASS Request Farm Response (2019/2020)	
Preferred Ports	Portsmouth, Rye Harbor, Hampton Harbor, Newburyport
Maximum distance from port/shore	$\leq 12$ nautical miles
Gear depth	$\geq 52$ and $\leq 90$ m
Farm Footprint	265 acres (107 ha)
Seawater temperature	10 to 16 °C at 15-20 m depth
Significant wave height	$< 5$ m
Farm Orientation Perpendicular to prevailing currents	

# AOI Revisions 2023

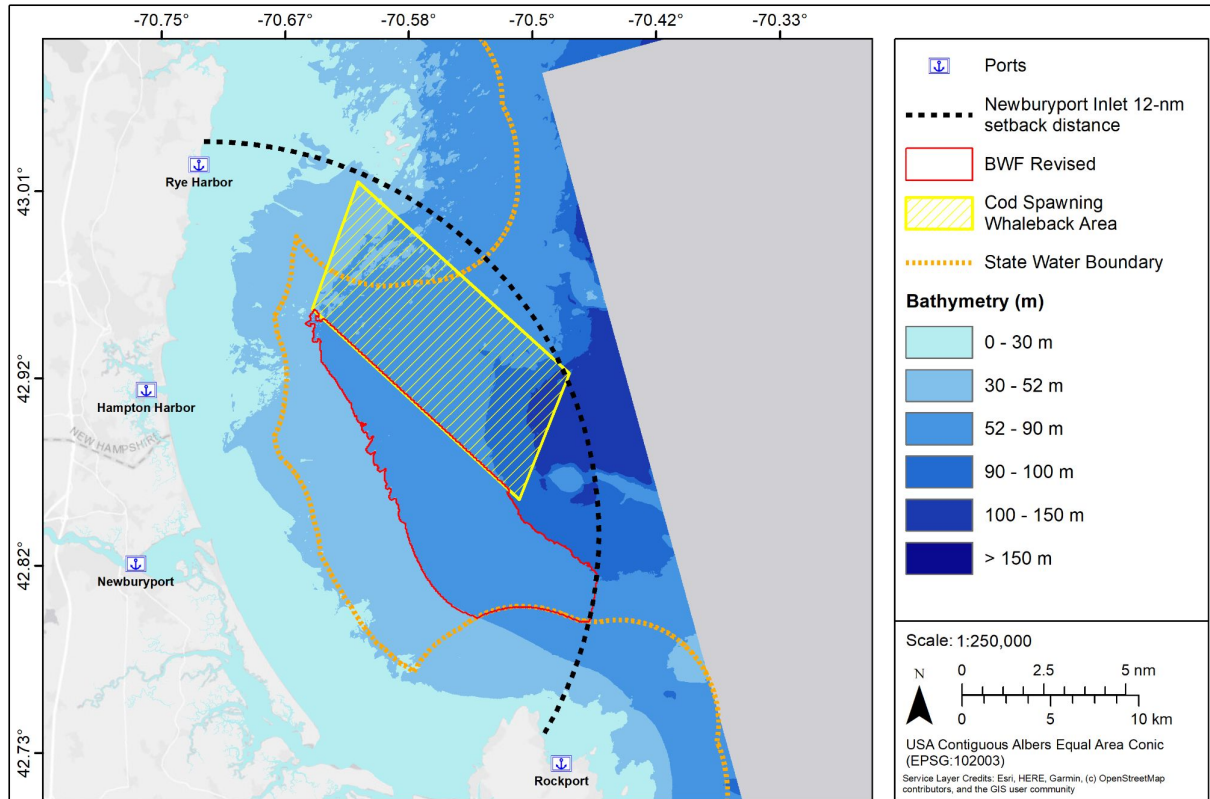
Cod Whaleback area now considered a constraint

Updated Data Layers and Methods used



# AOI Revisions 2023

Bathymetry 52 - 90 m



Map intended for planning purposes only: Not intended for navigational purposes

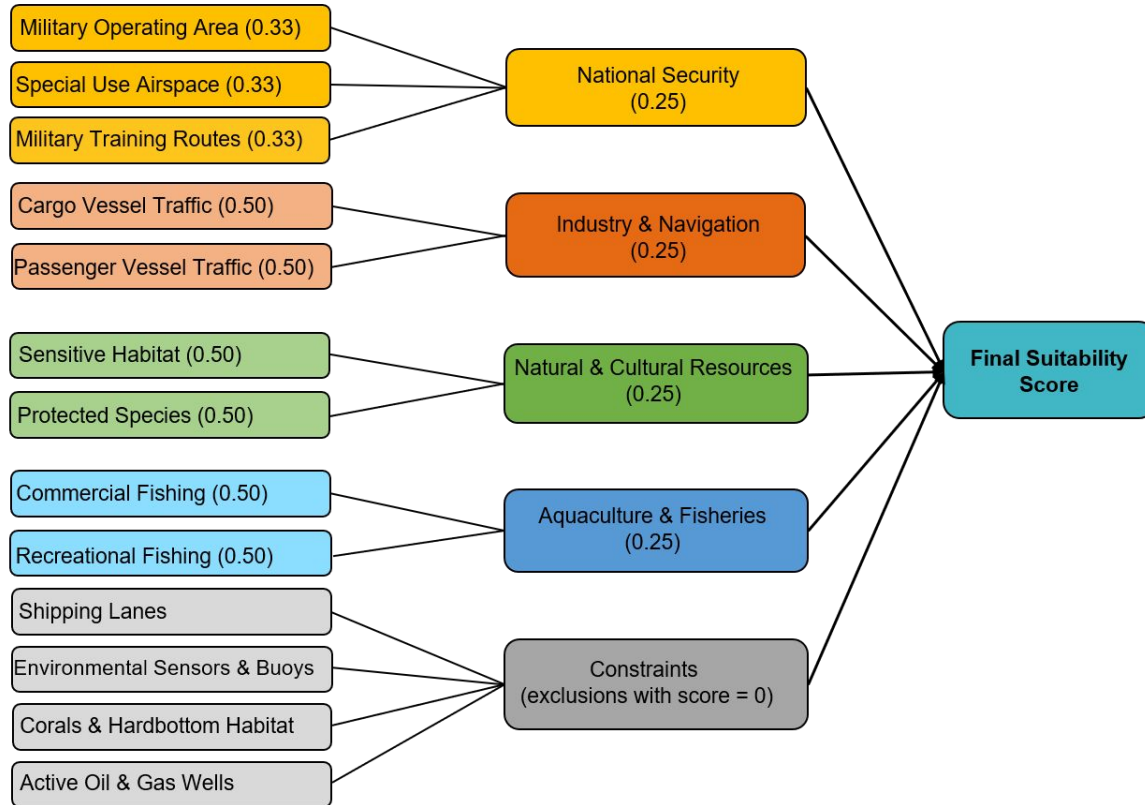
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# Suitability Model Design

- Four submodels and constraints model
- Equal weights for all data and submodels
- Geometric mean used for calculating scores



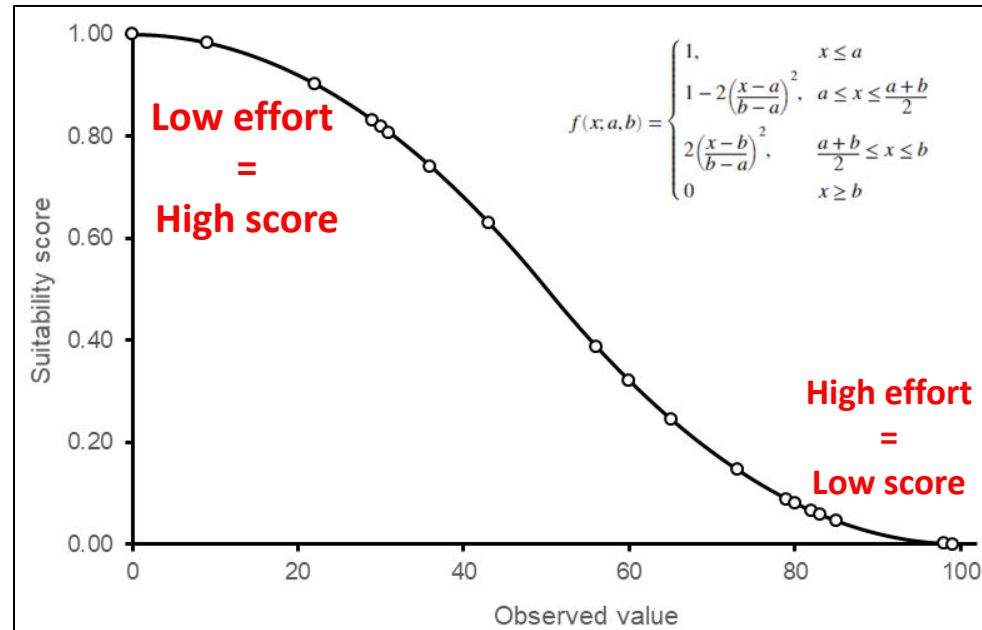
# Scoring data to standardized range (0-1)

## Categorical data

Layer not compatible = 0  
 Layer has uncertain compatibility = 0.5  
 Layer not present = 1

Example Data	Score
Hard Bottom Habitat	0
Military Operating Area	0.5
Oil and Gas Pipelines (500 m setback)	0

## Numerical/Continuous data



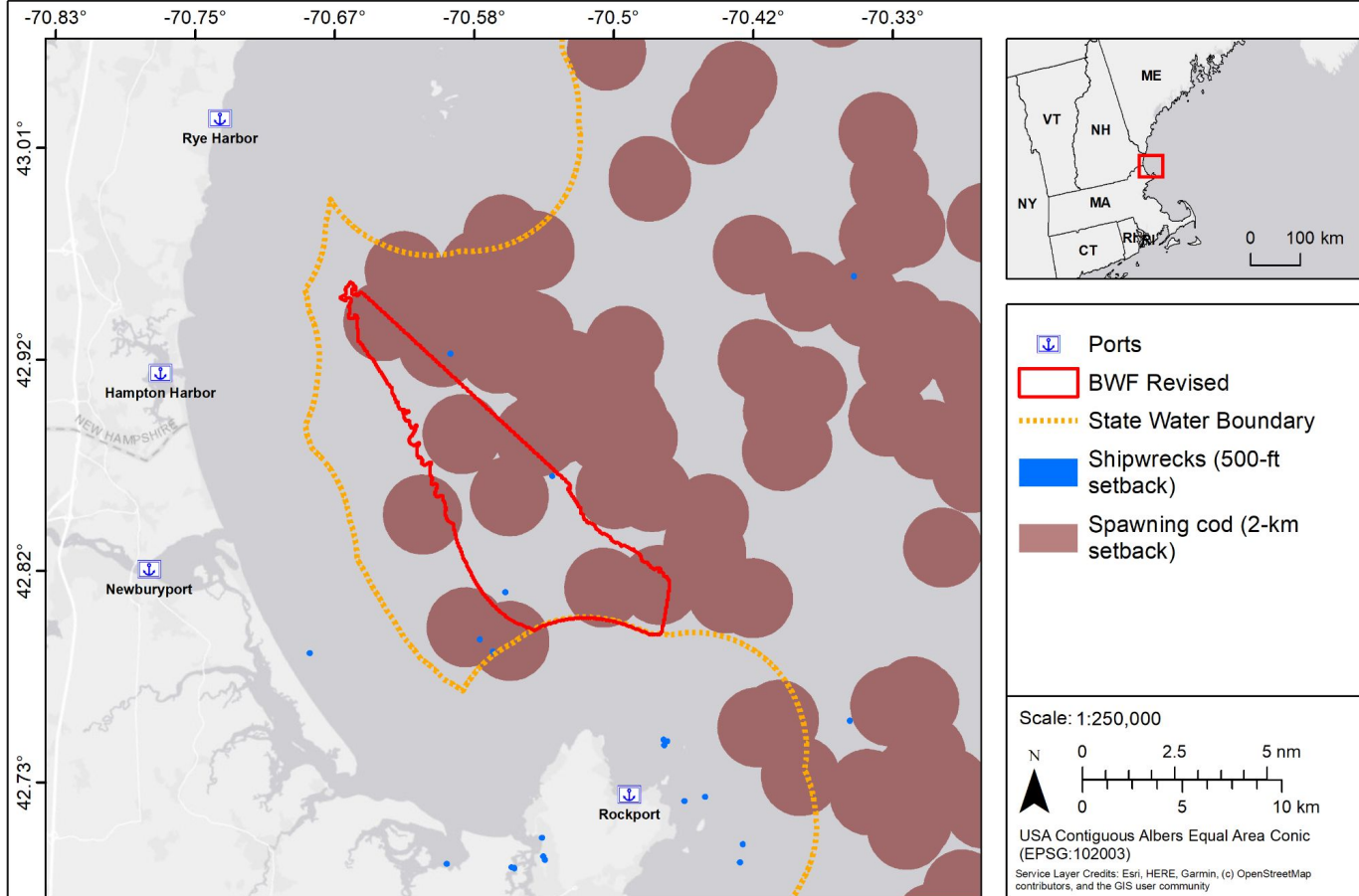
# Updated Suitability Model

Submodel	Data Layer	Score
Constraints	Cod Industry Based Surveys 2 km	0
Constraints	ENC Wrecks	0
National Security	Unexploded Ordnance	0.5
National Security	Boston Operating Area	0.5
Industry	AIS SUM 2017-2021	zmf
Fishing	VMS SUM 2009-2019	zmf
Logistics	Sediment grain size (Smaller is preferred)	zmf
Logistics	Distance to inlet (Close is better)	Linear
Logistics	Depth (Shallower is better)	Linear

# Constraints data Layers

Cod Industry Based  
Surveys

ENC Shipwrecks



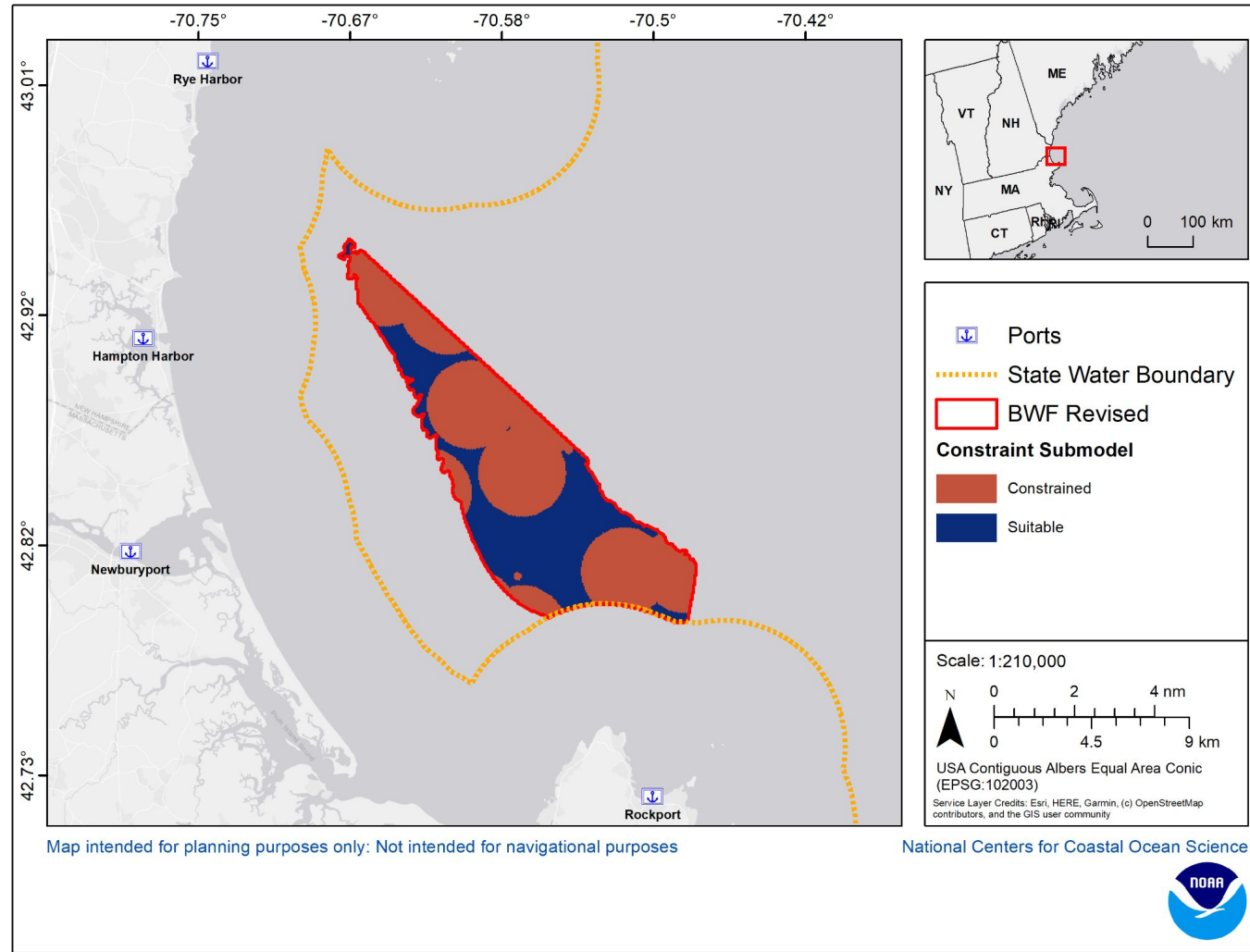
Map intended for planning purposes only: Not intended for navigational purposes

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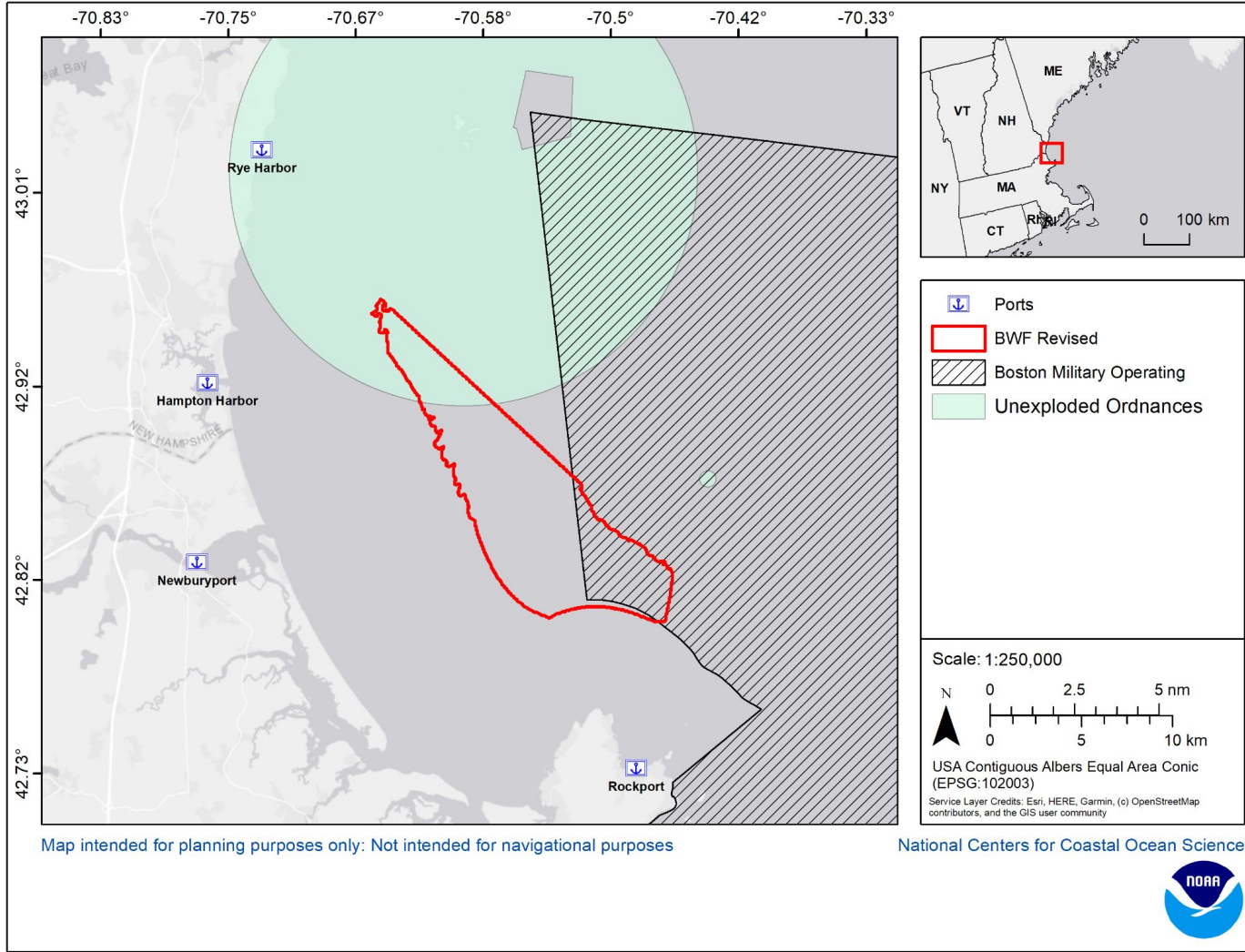
# Constraints Submodel



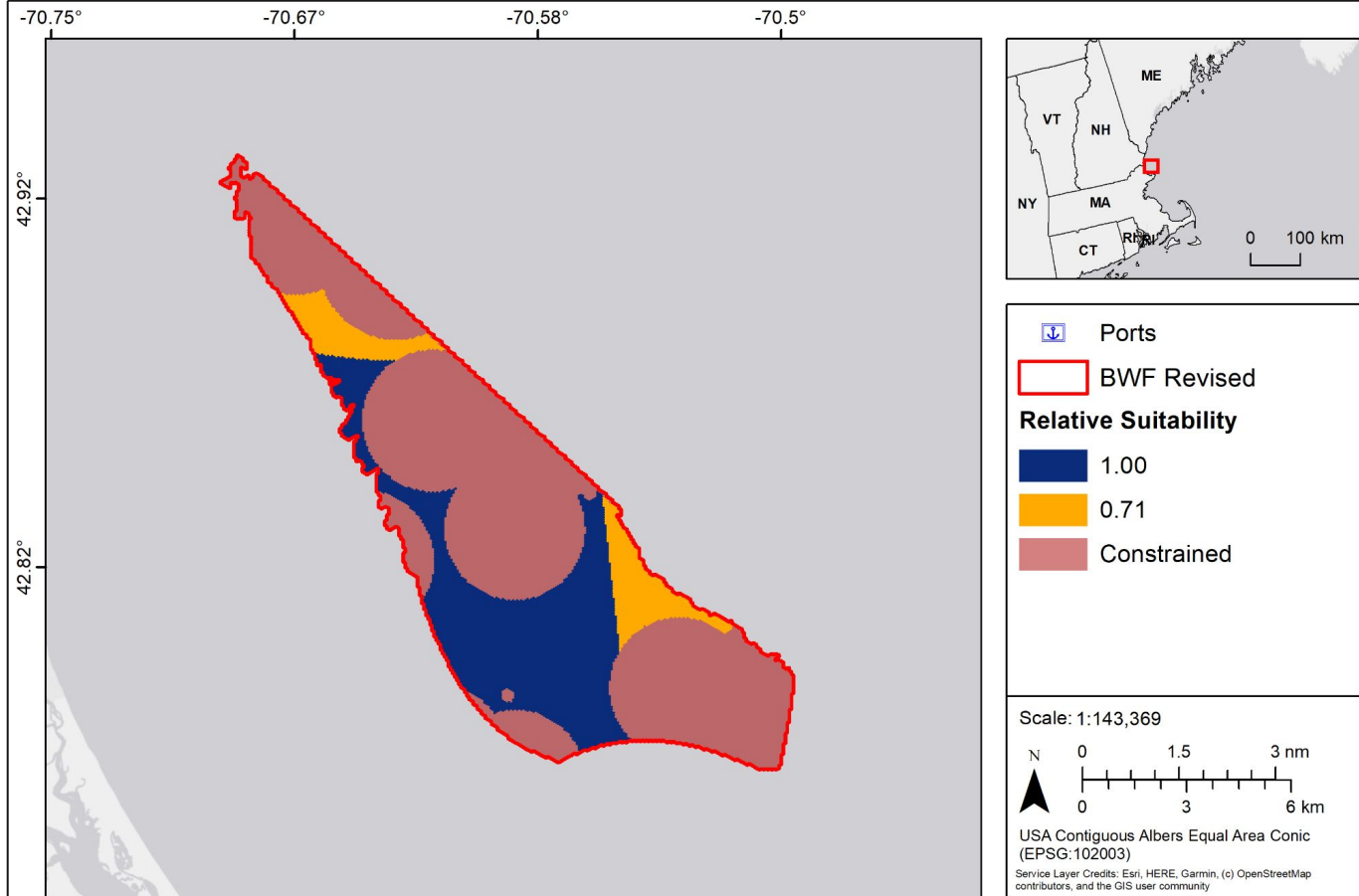
# National Security Data

Boston Military Operating Area

Unexploded Ordnances



# National Security Submodel



Map intended for planning purposes only: Not intended for navigational purposes

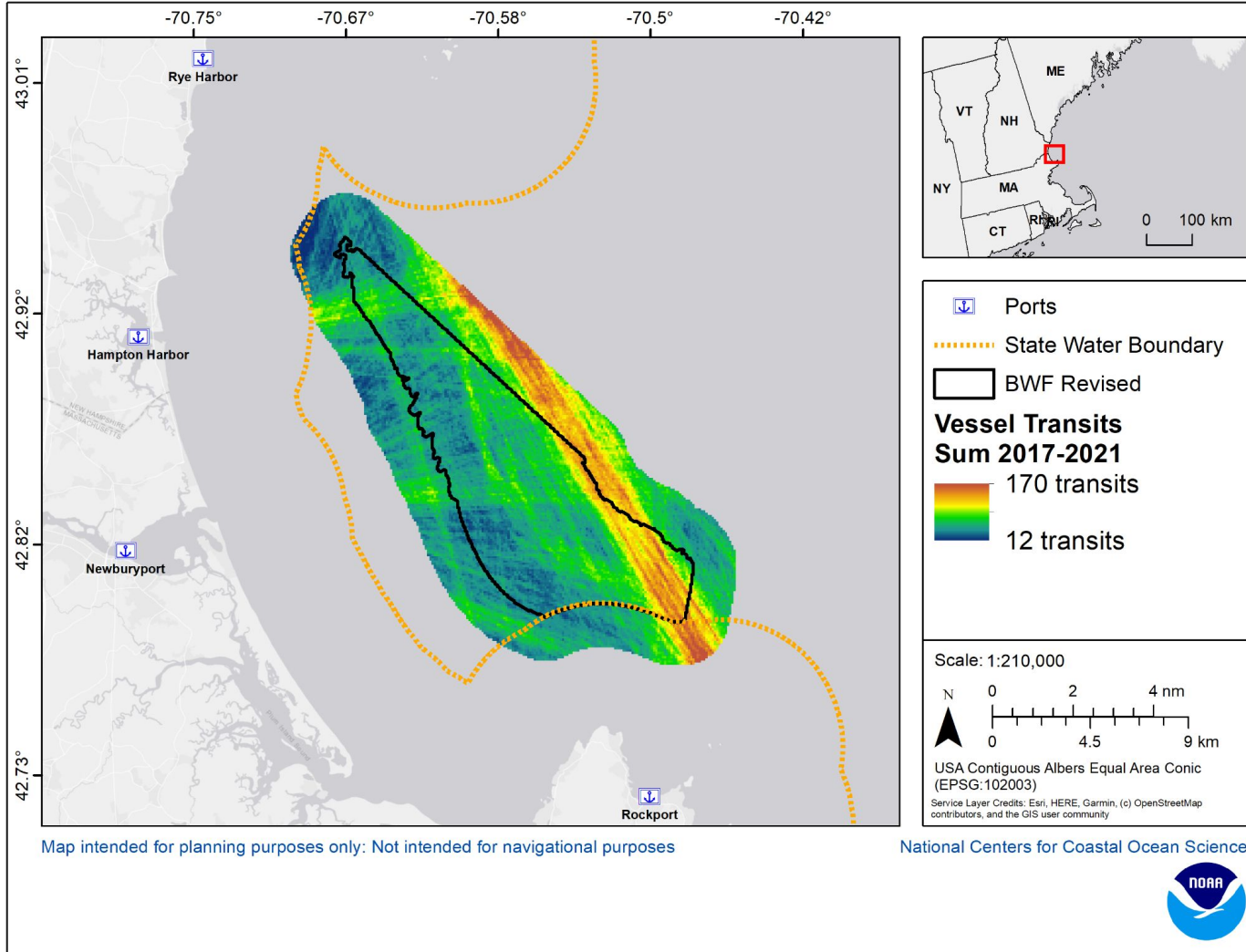
National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science



# Industry Data

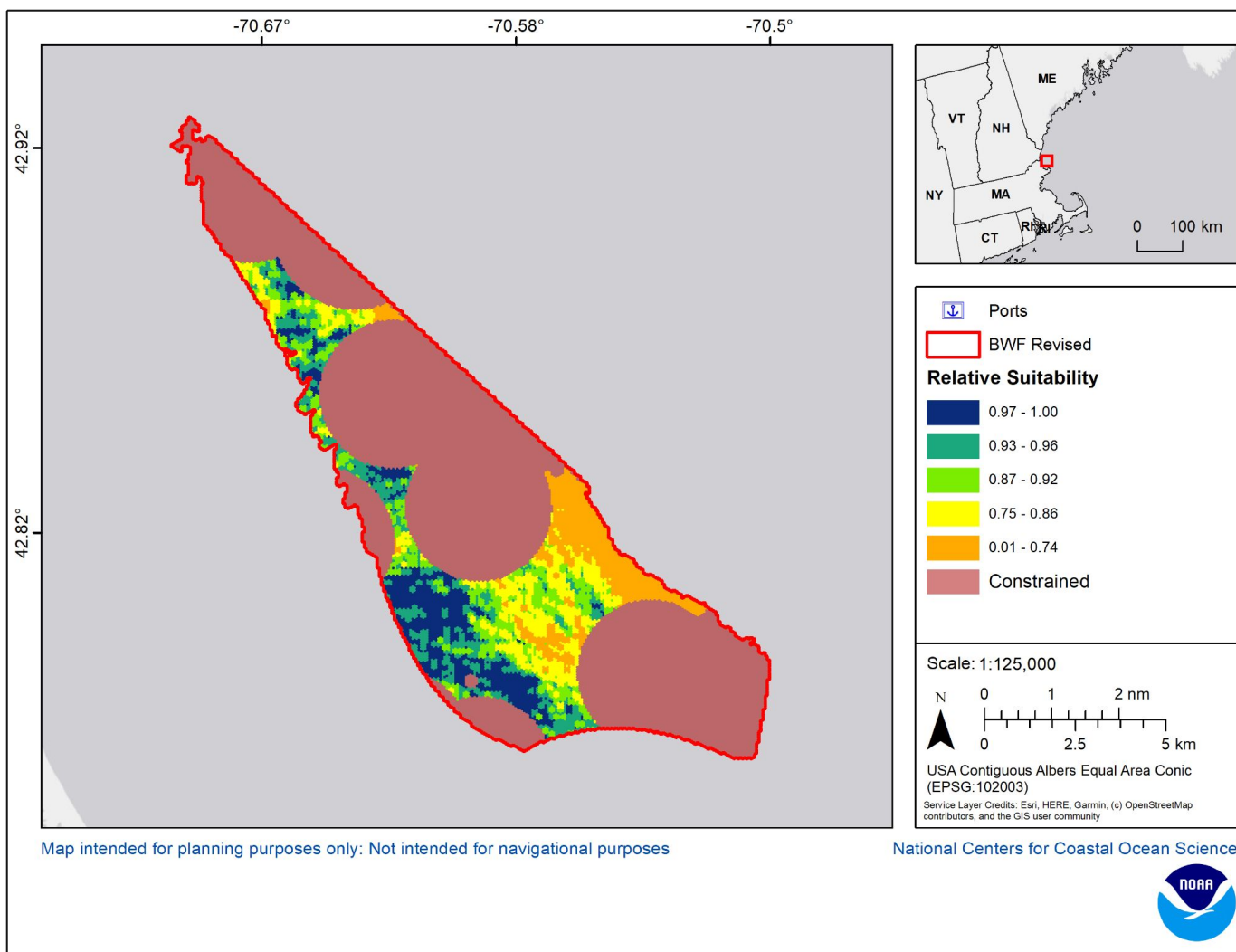
## Sum of AIS All Vessel Type Transits 2017-2021

\*Note Vessels without AIS  
transponders not represented  
(i.e. small fishing vessels)





# Industry Submodel



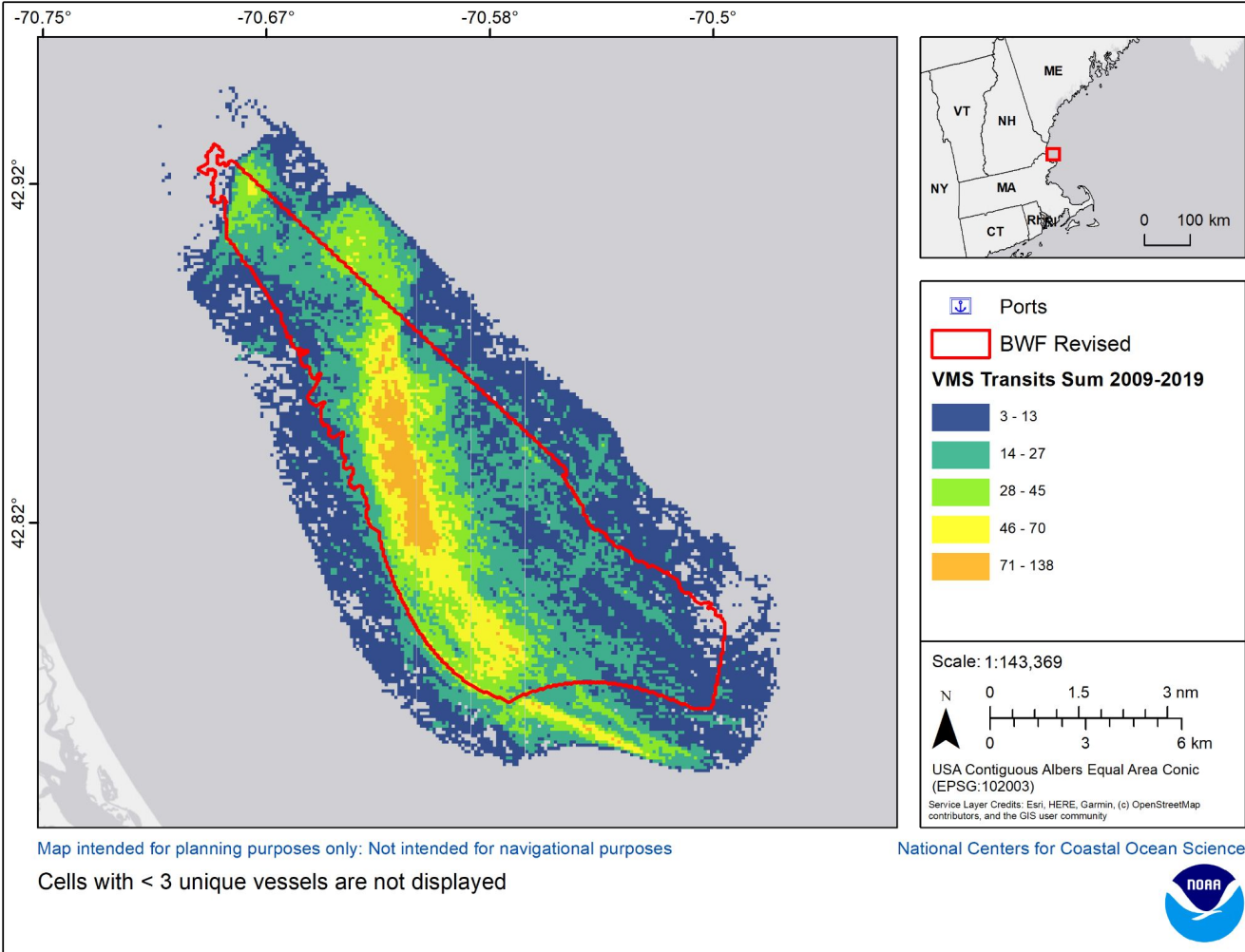
# Fisheries Data

VMS (all gear types)

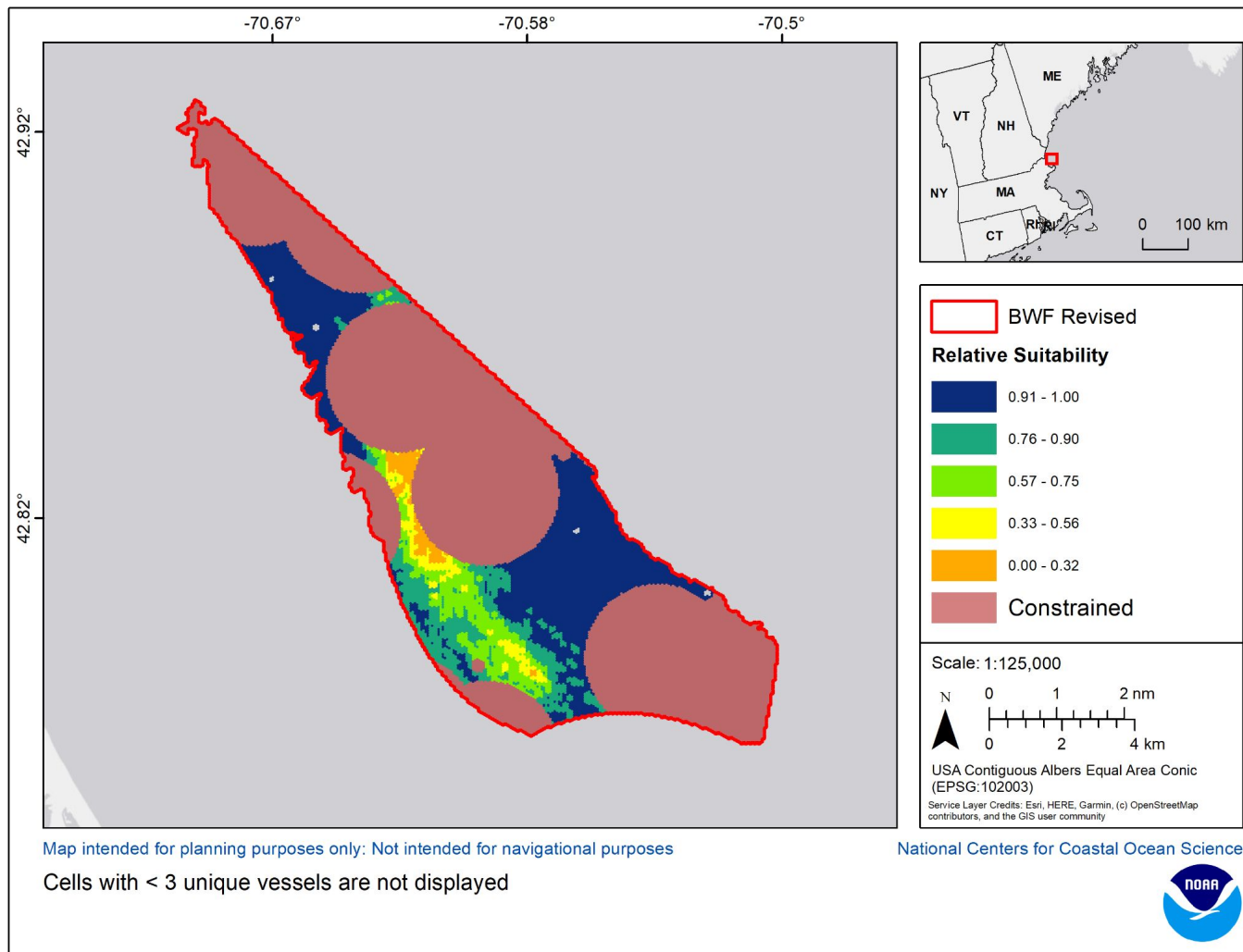
Sum 2009-2019

Tracks created from  
points that were < 1 mi  
apart and <1 hr in time  
difference

All data used in model,  
but not displayed due to  
confidentiality



# Fisheries Submodel

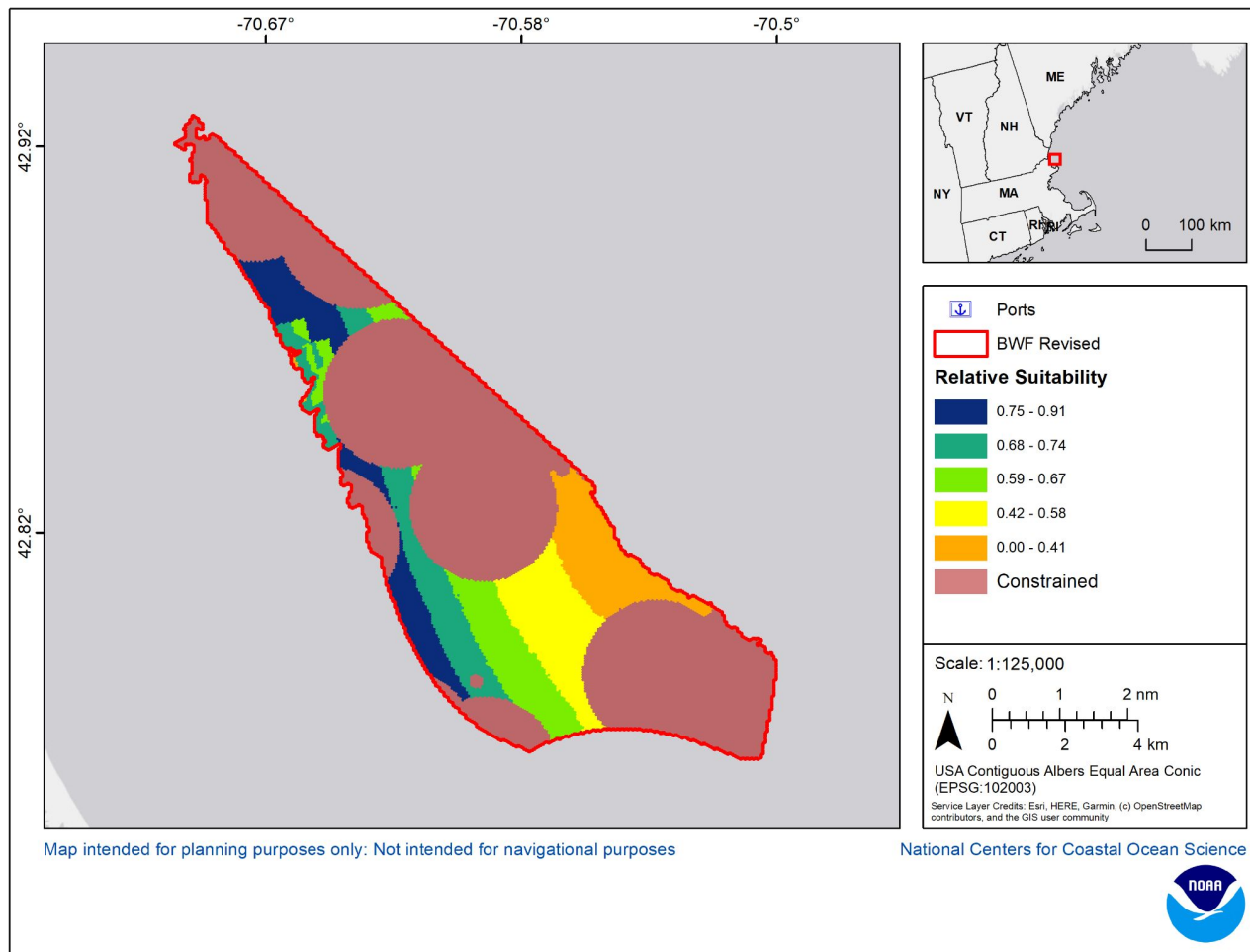


# Logistics Submodel

Distance from Inlets

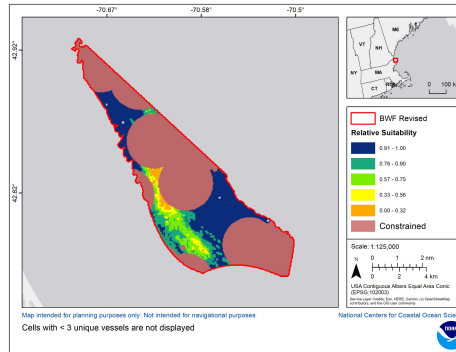
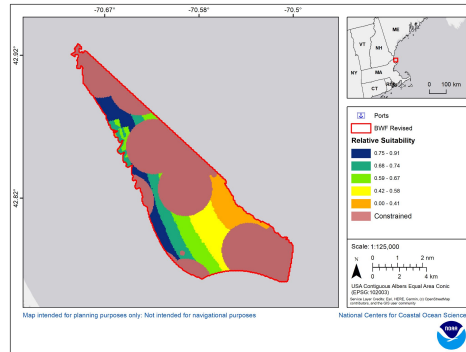
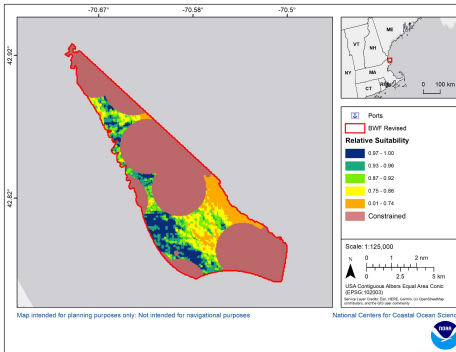
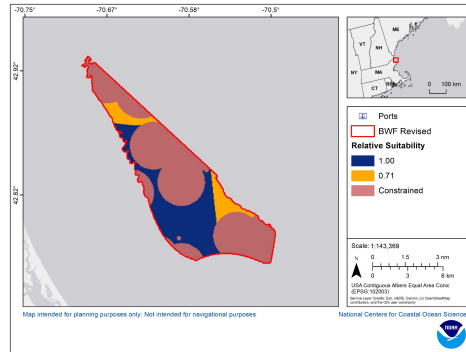
Bathymetry

Sediment grain size

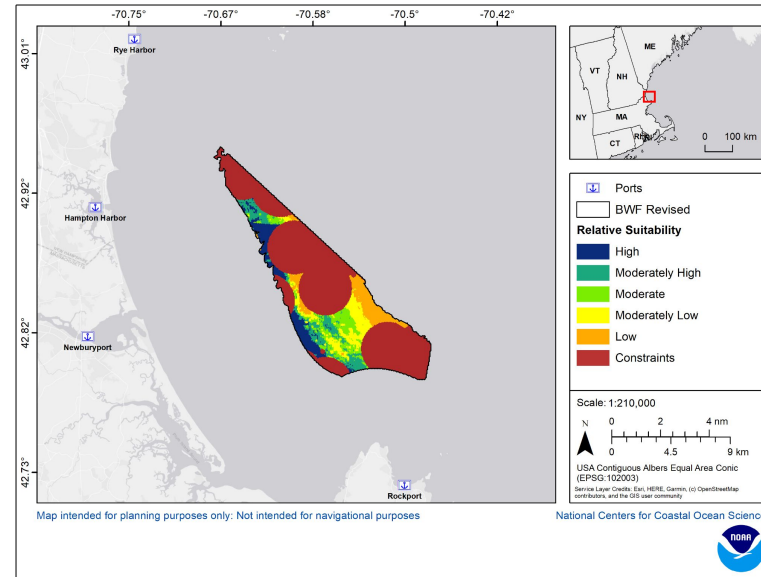




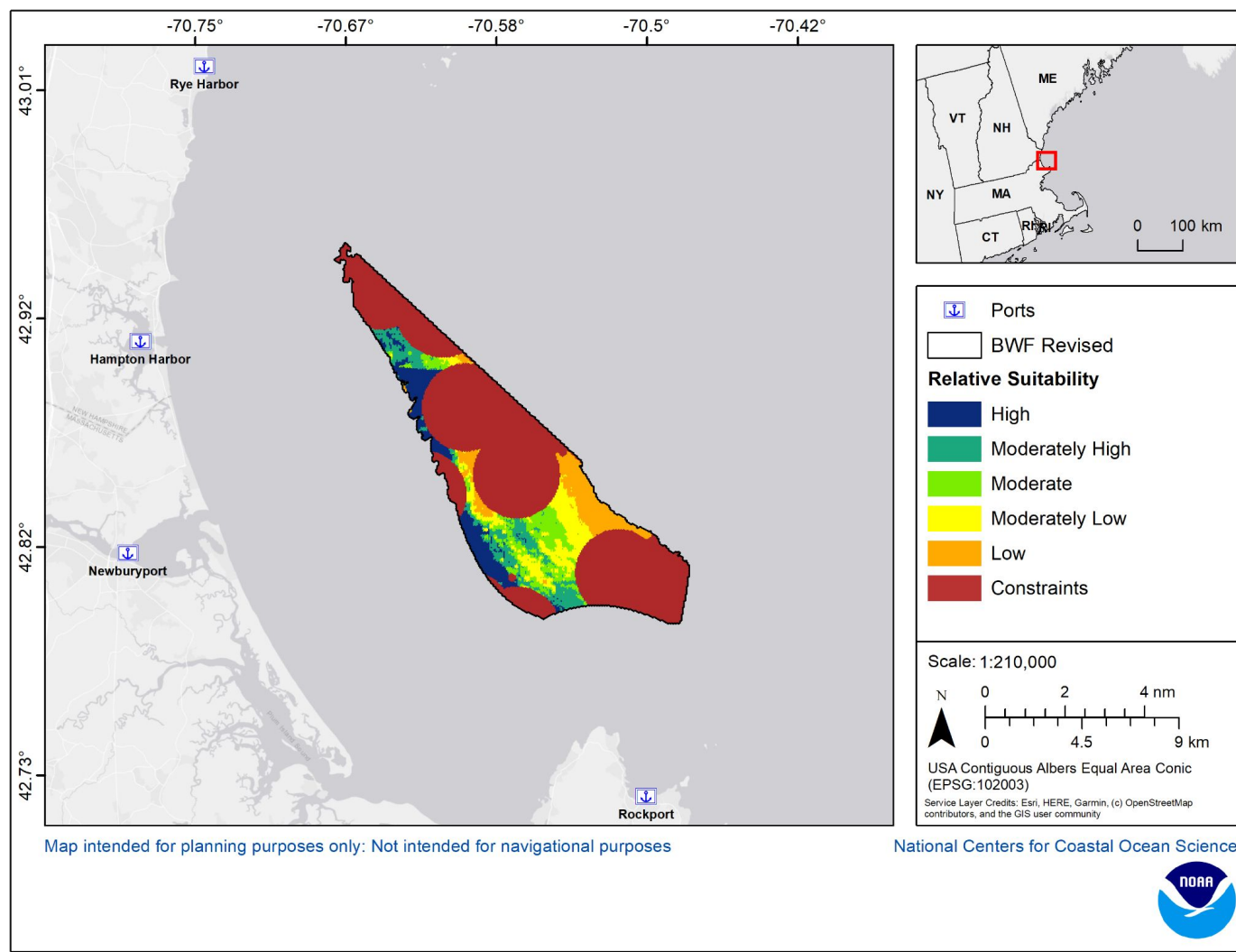
# Calculation of Final Suitability Model



==



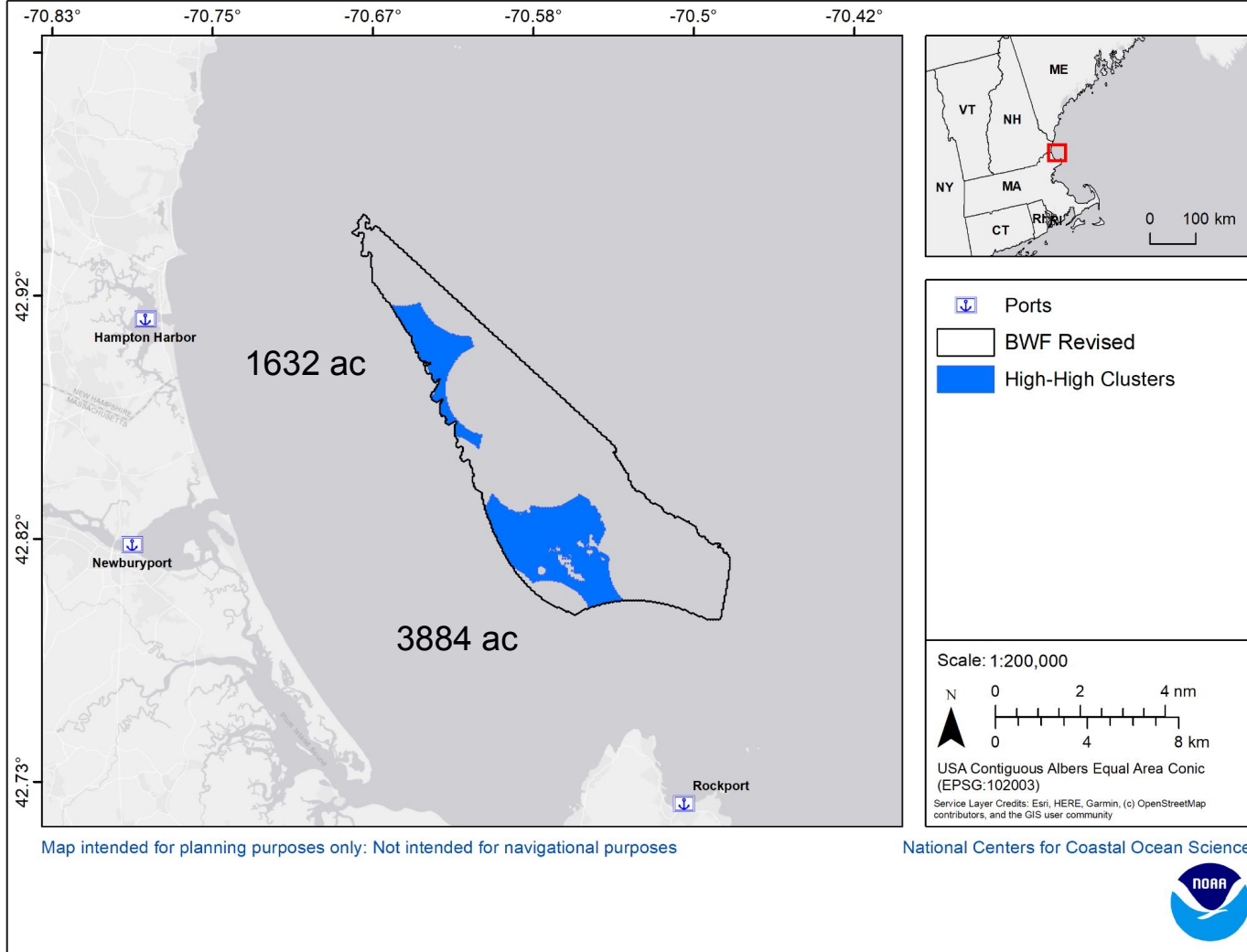
# Final Suitability



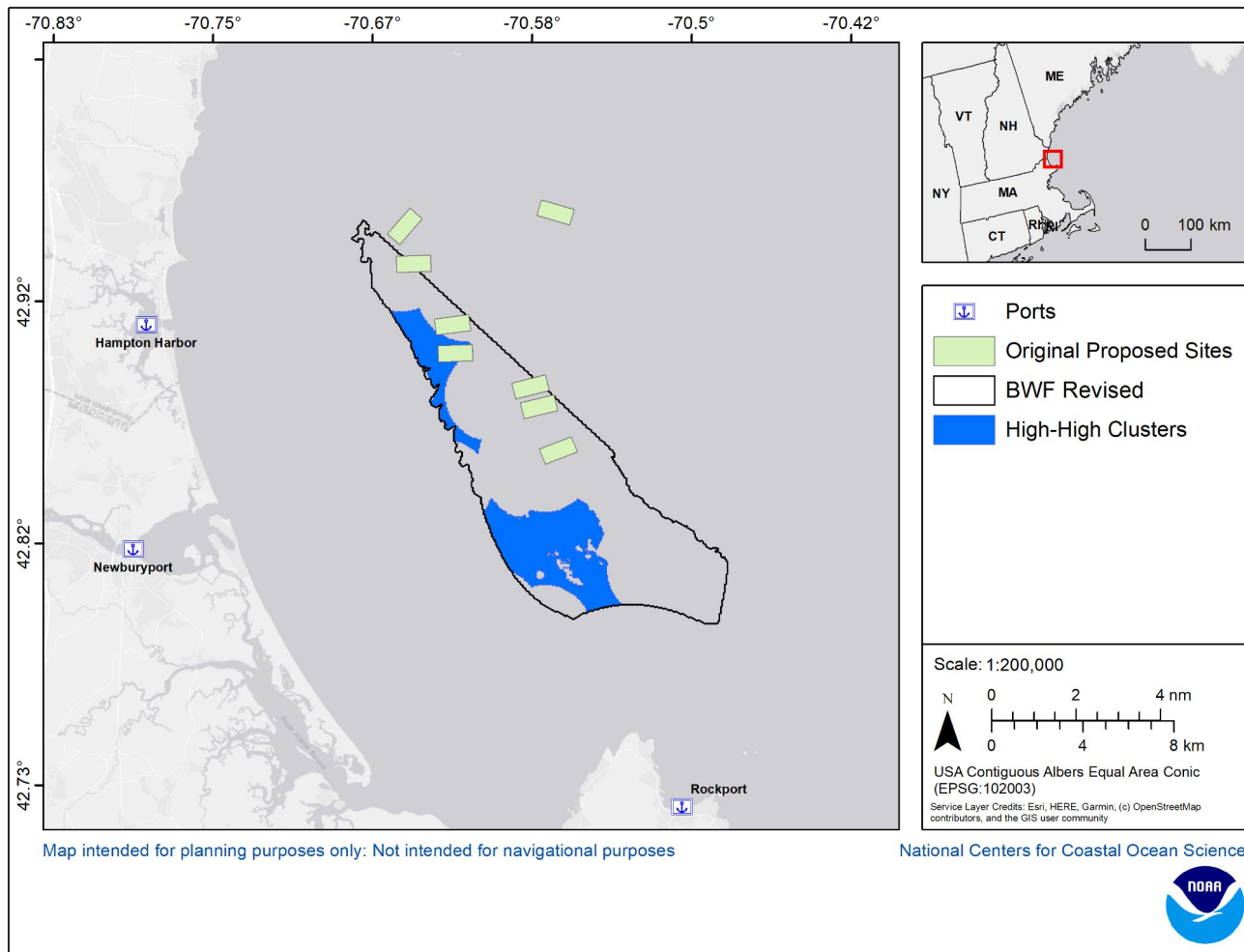
# Cluster Analysis

584 m search  
distance used (265  
ac farm)

$p < 0.05$  (CI 95%)



# Comparison to Old Analysis

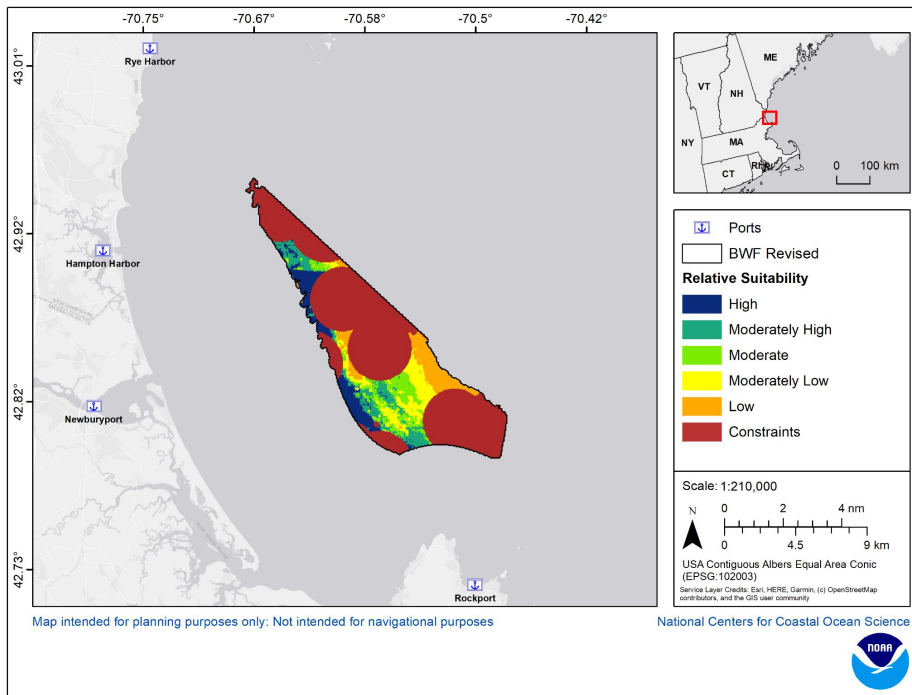




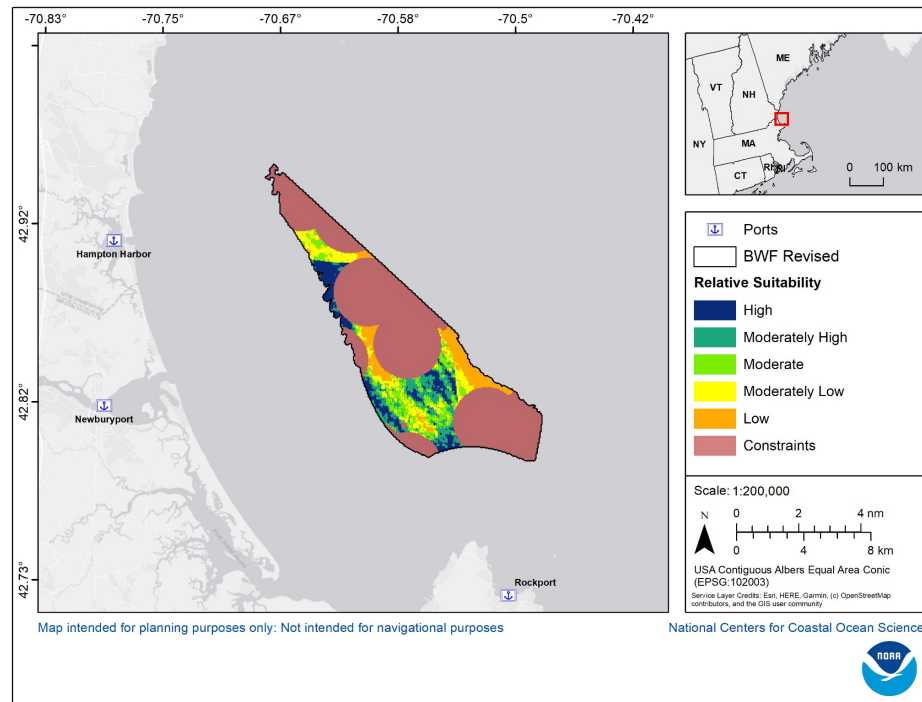
## Next Steps

- Review Model and make any adjustments to parameters
- Identify and rank potential farm sites
- Characterize and review potential farm sites

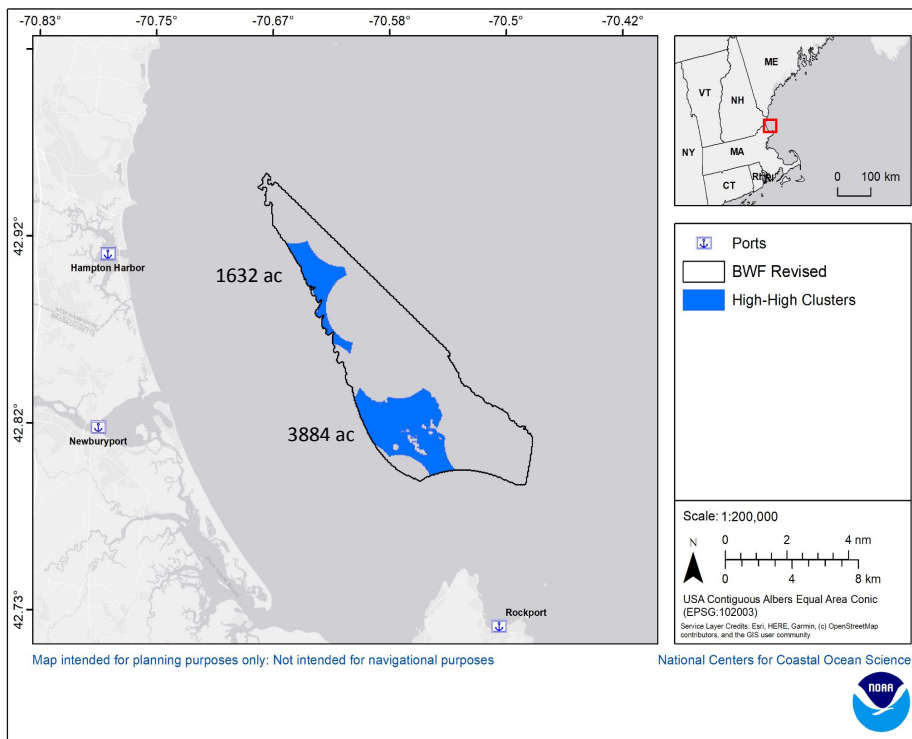
## Original Model with Logistics Submodel



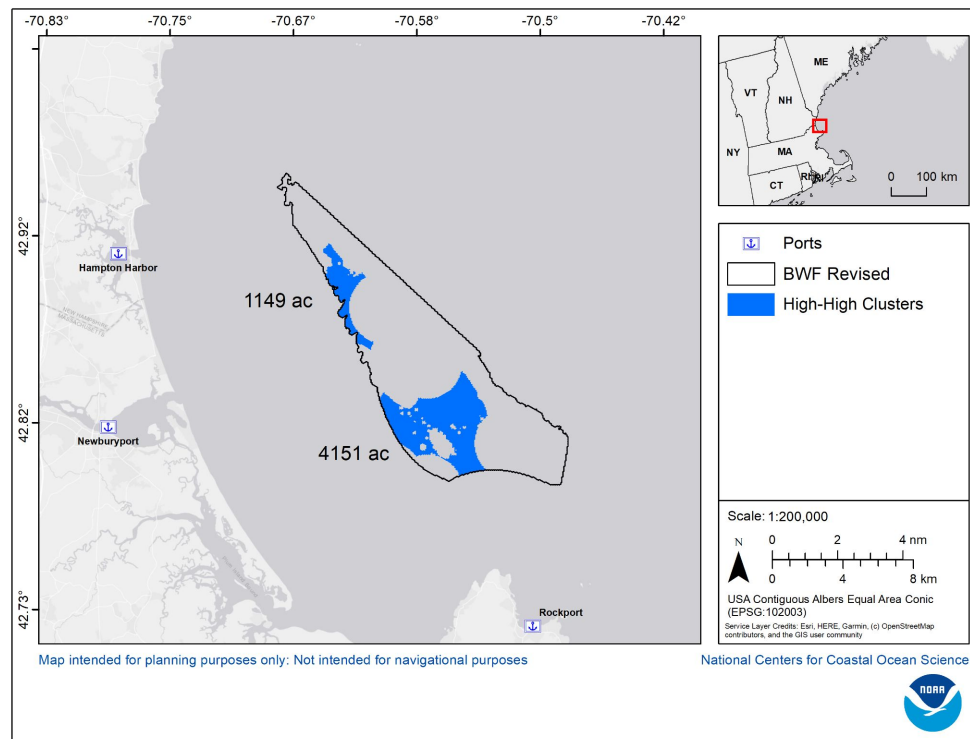
## New Model without Logistics Submodel



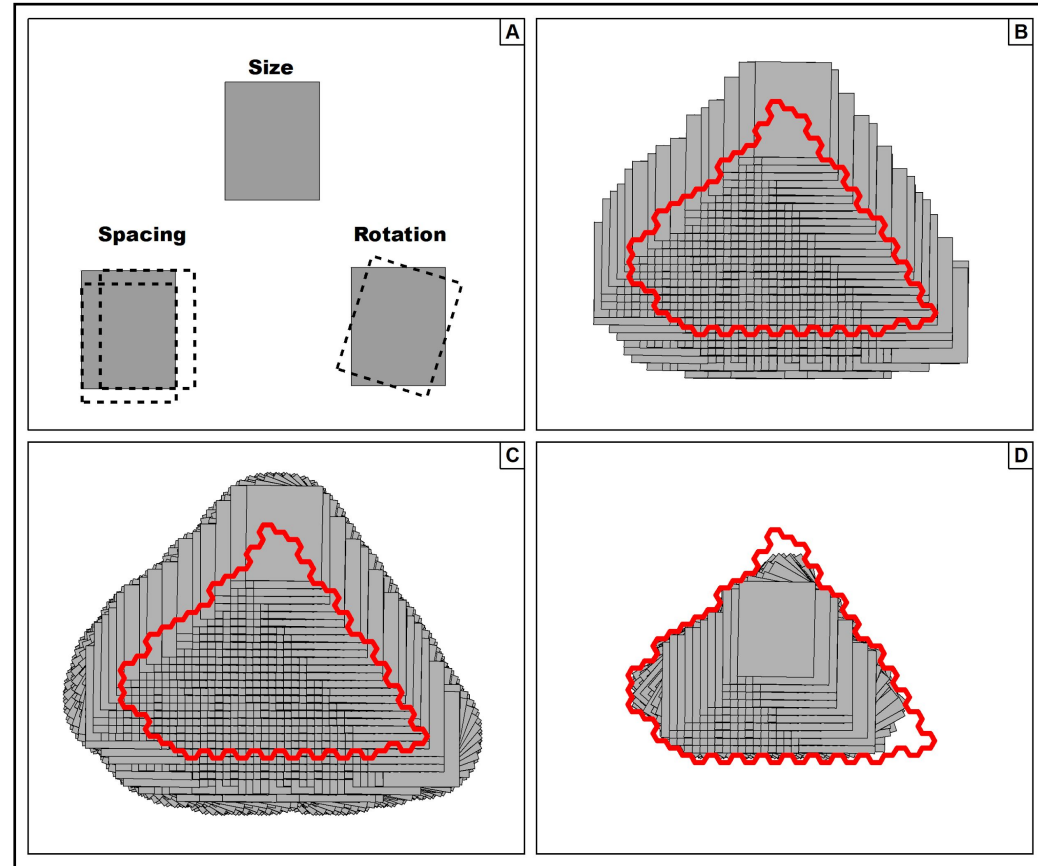
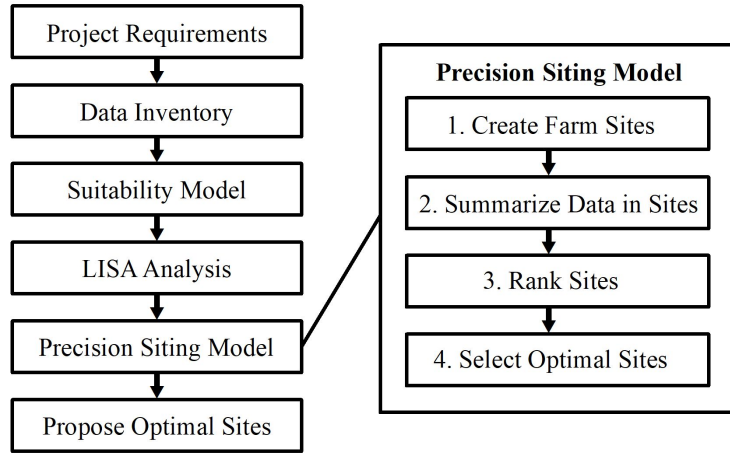
## Original Model with Logistics Submodel



## New Model without Logistics Submodel



# Precision Siting Overview



# TOPSIS Analysis

Data Layer	Score
Option perpendicular to current	Linear
AIS SUM 2017-2021	zmf
VMS SUM 2009-2019	zmf

Identify the top three ranked sites that do not overlap



# TOPSIS Calculations

$$S_i^+ = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n (v_{ij} - v_j^+)^2}$$

Calculates distance from each alternative site to the most positive solution

$$S_i^- = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^n (v_{ij} - v_j^-)^2}$$

Calculates distance from each alternative site to the most negative solution

$$\text{TOPSIS Score} = \frac{S_i^-}{(S_i^- + S_i^+)}$$

Calculates the TOPSIS score from each alternative site

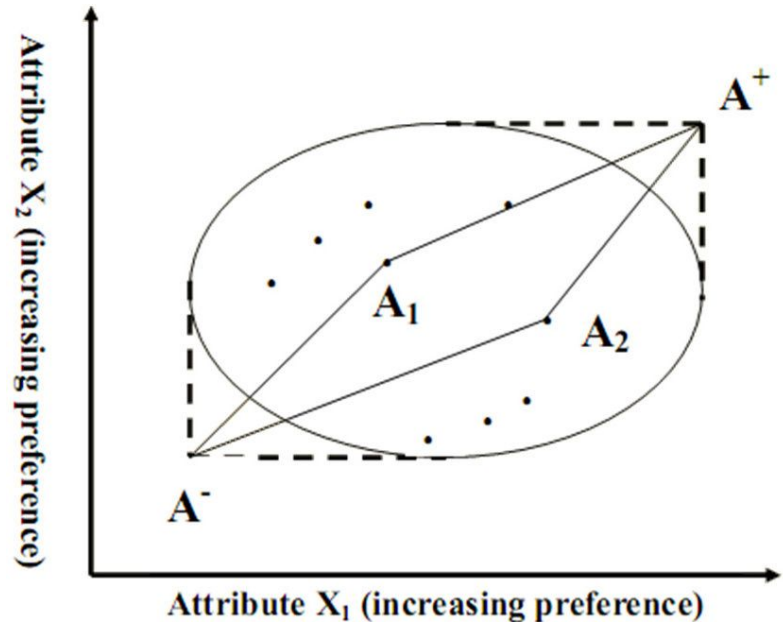
$S_i^-$  = Negative Solution

$S_i^+$  = Positive Solution

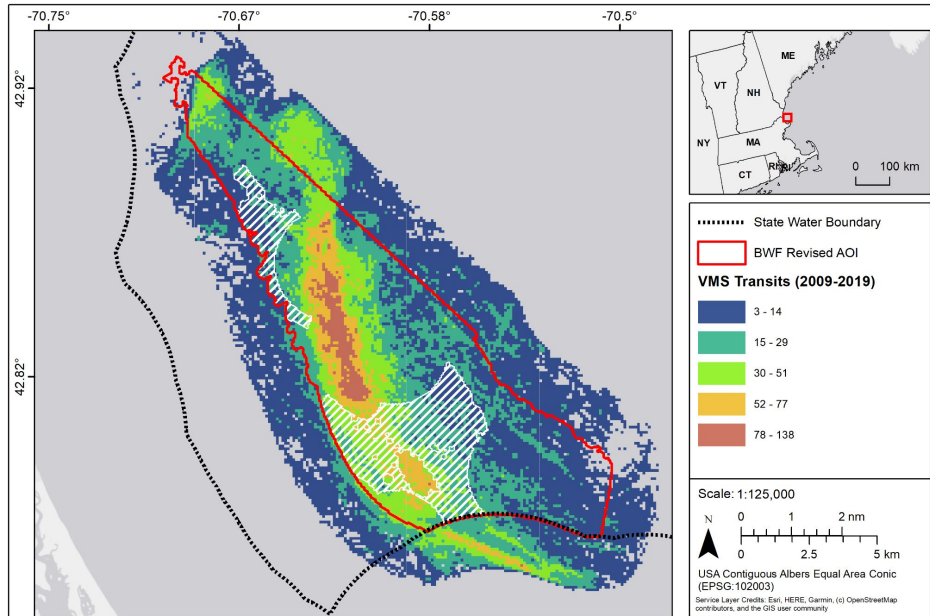
$v_{ij}$  = Variable  $i$  of  $j$

$v_i^+$  = Most Positive Score for Variable  $i$

$v_i^-$  = Most Negative Score for Variable  $i$



# VMS Transits

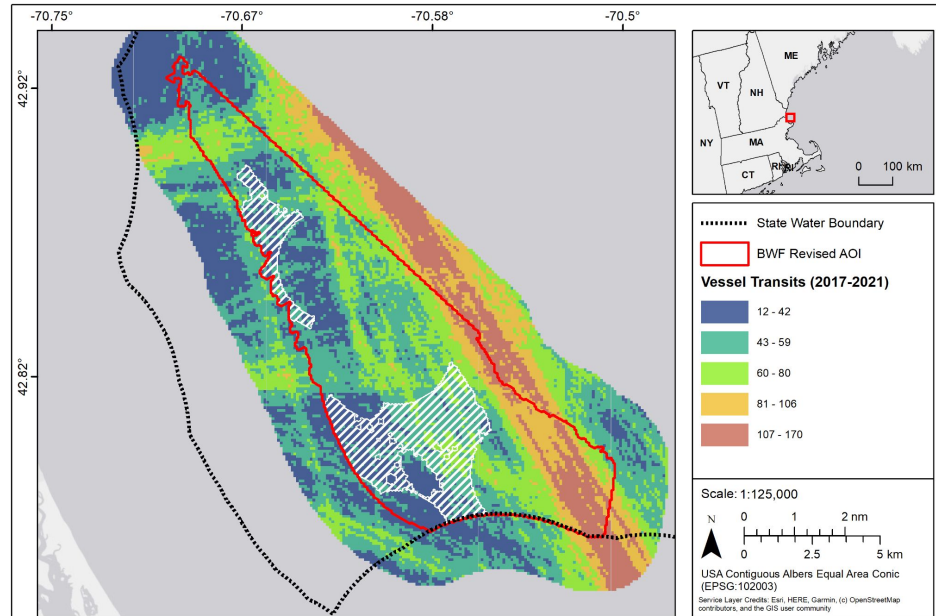


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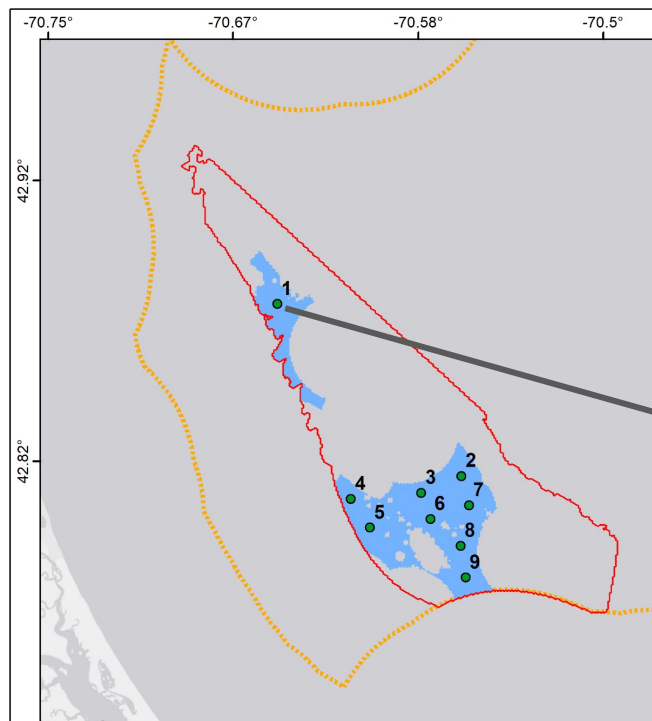
# AIS Transits



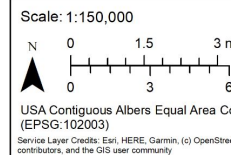
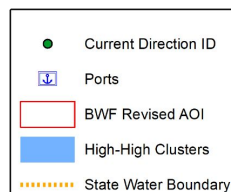
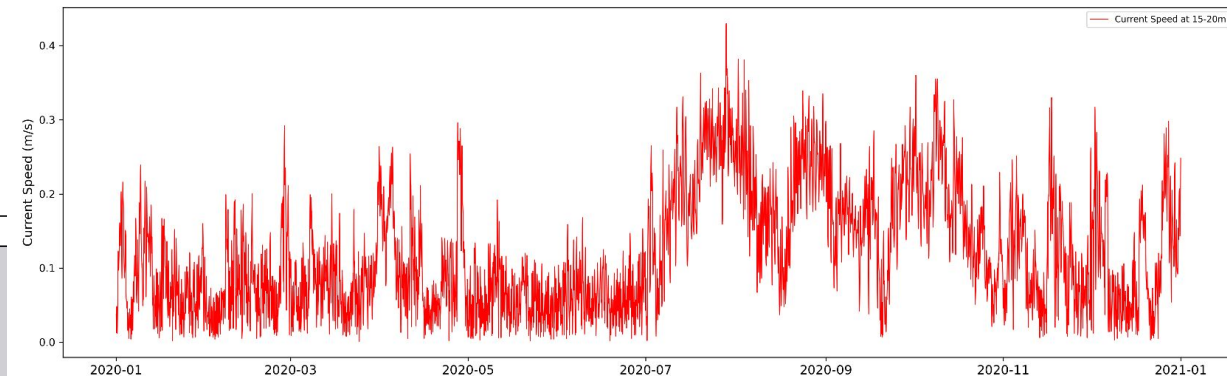
Map intended for planning purposes only: Not intended for navigational purposes

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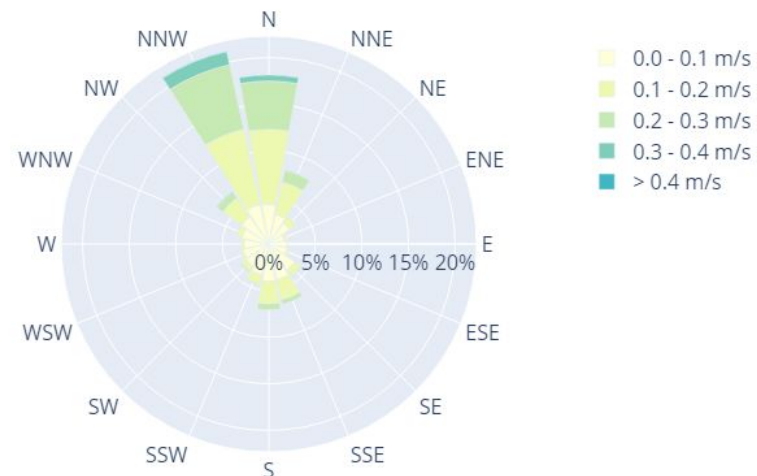
Map intended for planning purposes only: Not intended for navigational purposes



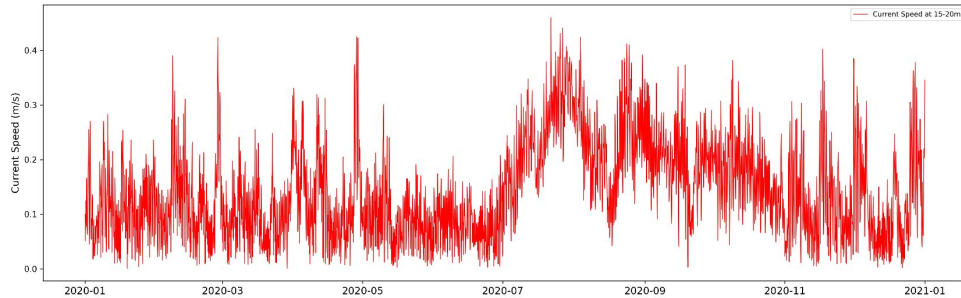
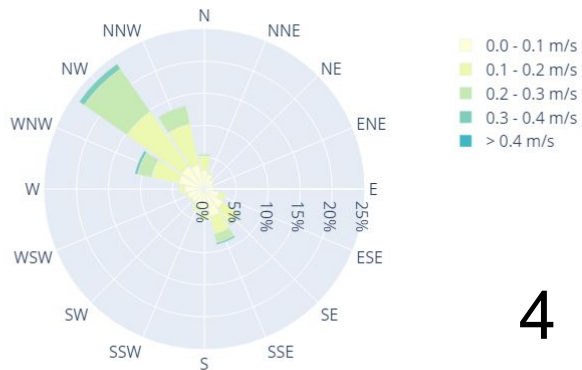
National Centers for Coastal Ocean

## Current Speed Percent Occurrence at 15-20m Depth

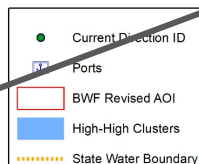
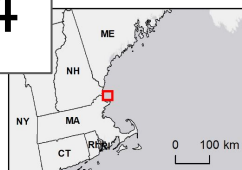
1



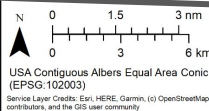
# Current Speed Percent Occurrence at 15-20m Depth



4



Scale: 1:150,000

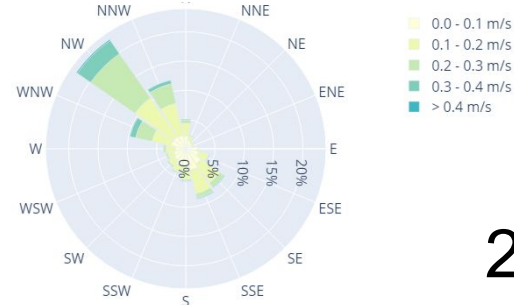


Map intended for planning purposes only: Not intended for navigational purposes

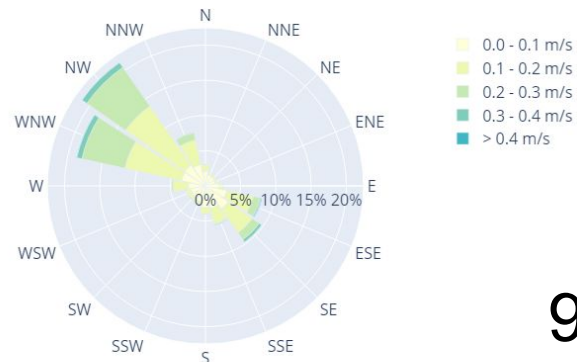
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2



## Current Speed Percent Occurrence at 15-20m Depth



9

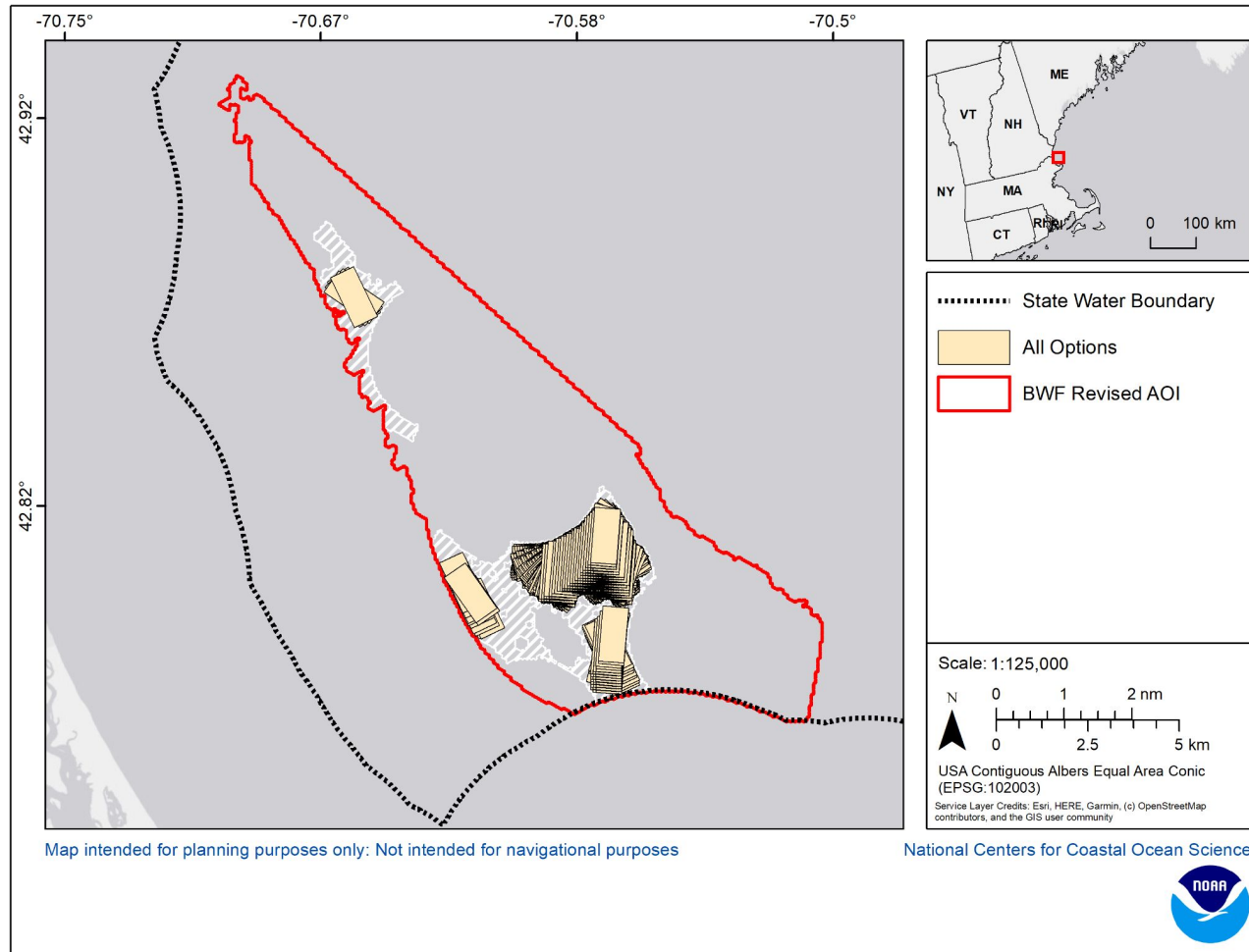
# Potential Options

3850 options evaluated

All options are 265 ac  
(1508 m x 711 m)

All options rotated by  $10^\circ$

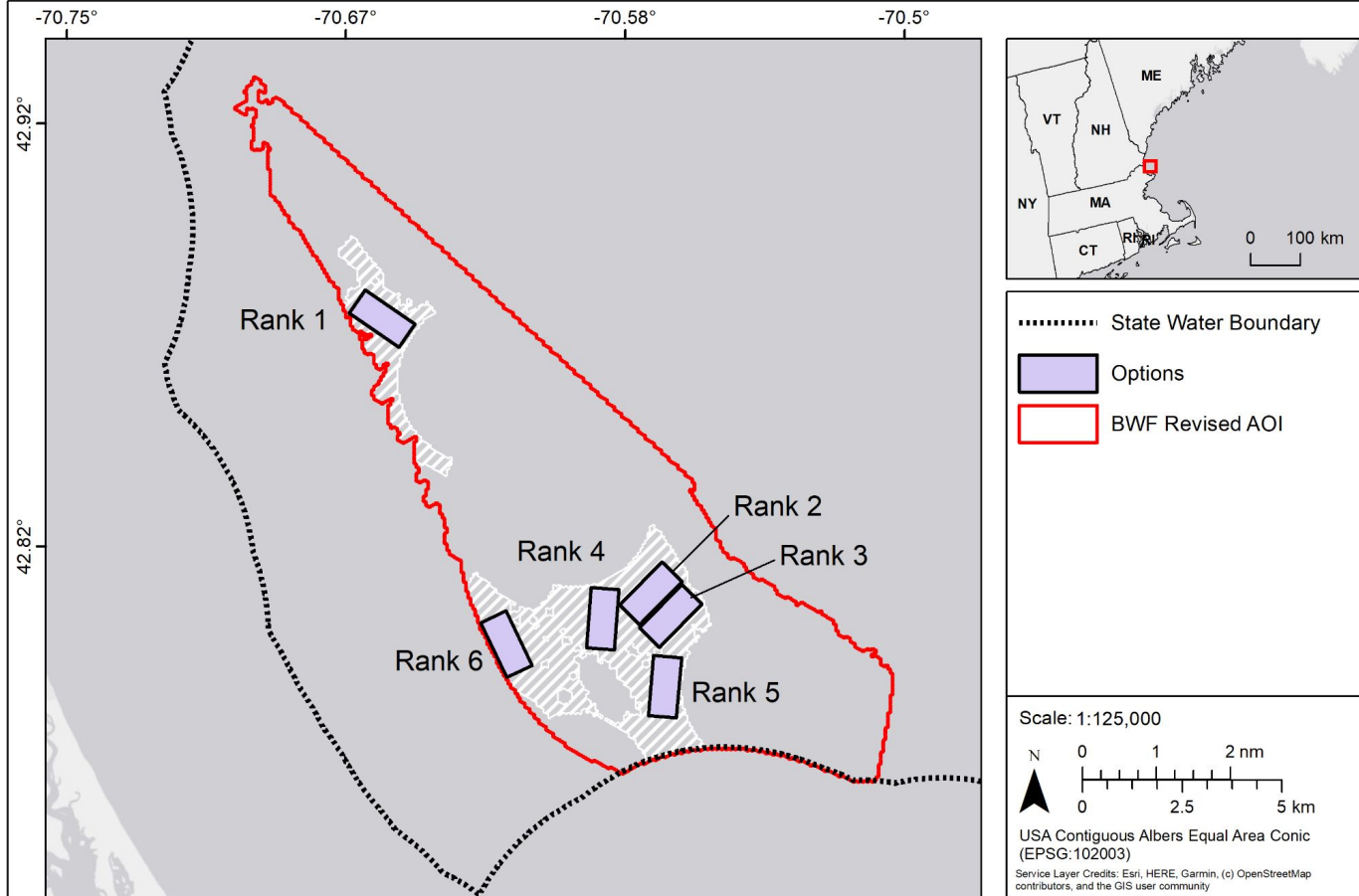
All options spaced by  
71m (1/10 of width)



# Ranked Options

Top Ranking options with no overlap with other options

Total of 6 identified, top three chosen for further review



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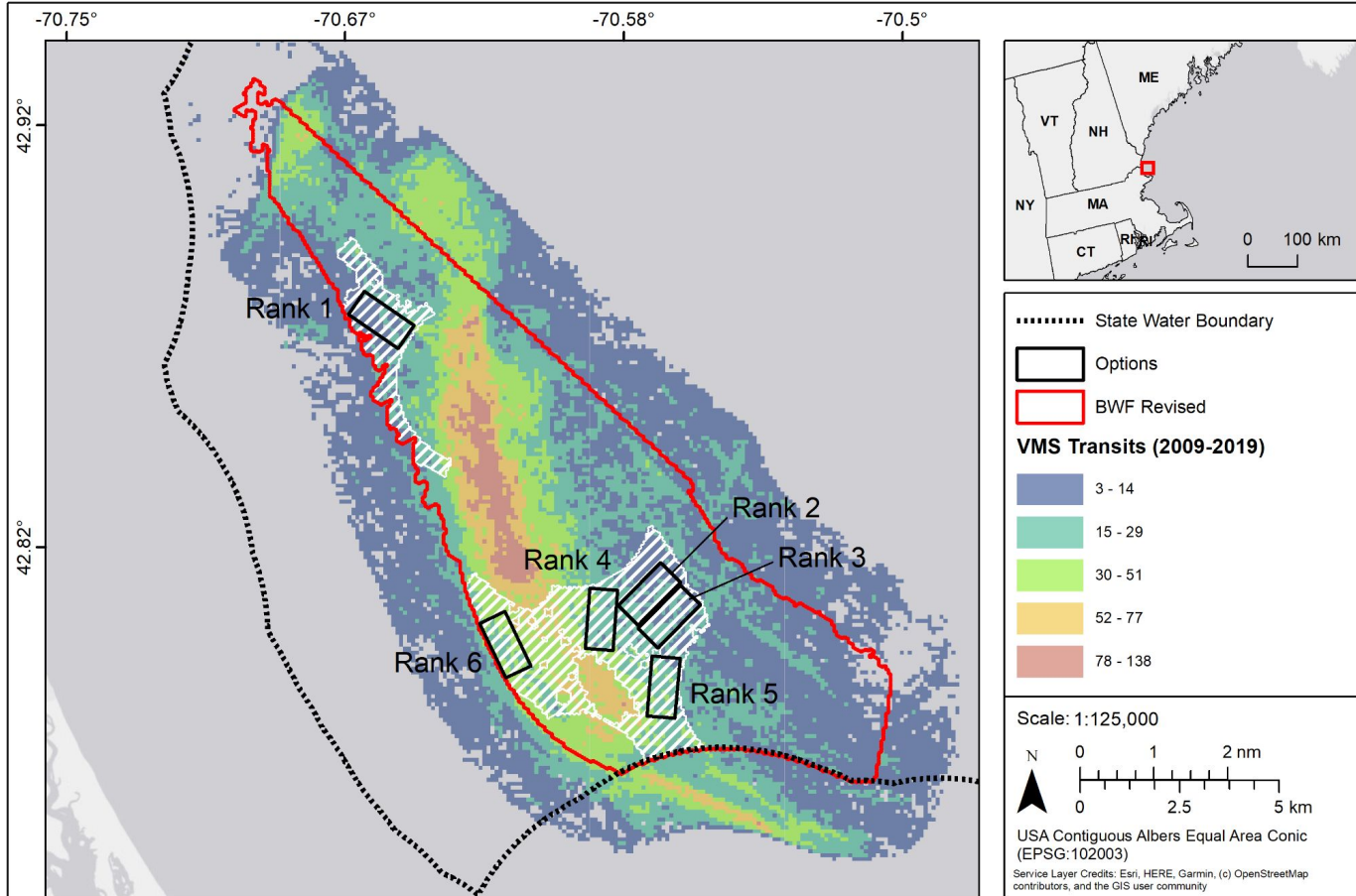
# TOPSIS Option Ranking

Rank	Option	AIS/265ac	VMS/265ac	Degrees from Ideal	TOPSIS Score
1	1-1	55	1871	79.5	0.64
2	2-1	66	1966	0.5	0.63
3	2-2	75	2124	0.5	0.58
4	2-3	67	3078	40.5	0.45
5	2-4	69	3138	40.1	0.42
6	2-5	47	4364	109.5	0.42

# Ranks for Options

Option	AIS Rank	VMS Rank	Degrees from ideal Rank	TOPSIS Score	Rank
1-1	2	1	5	0.64	1
2-1	3	2	1	0.63	2
2-2	6	3	2	0.58	3
2-3	4	4	4	0.45	4
2-4	5	5	3	0.42	5
2-5	1	6	6	0.42	6

# VMS

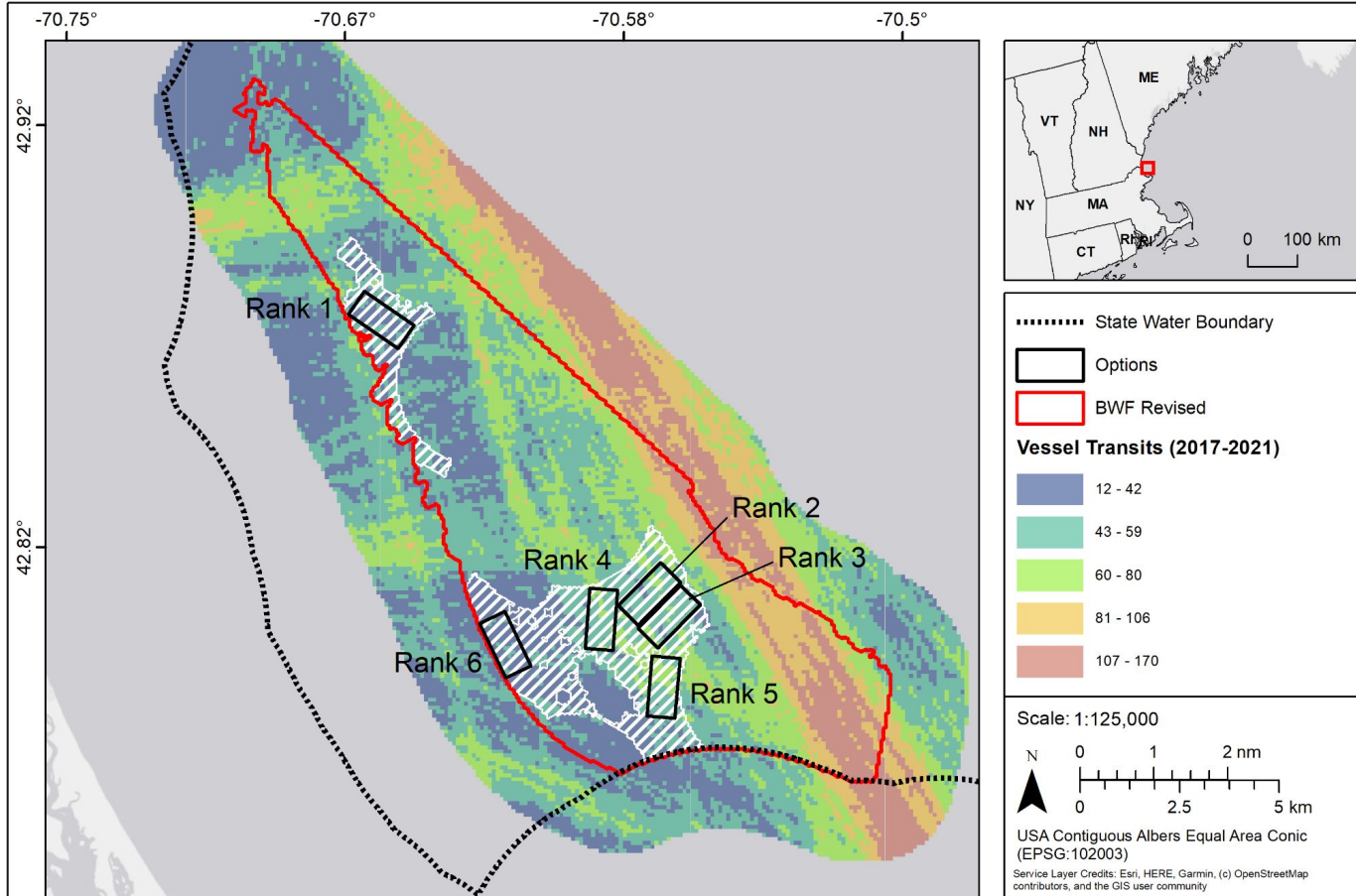


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# AIS

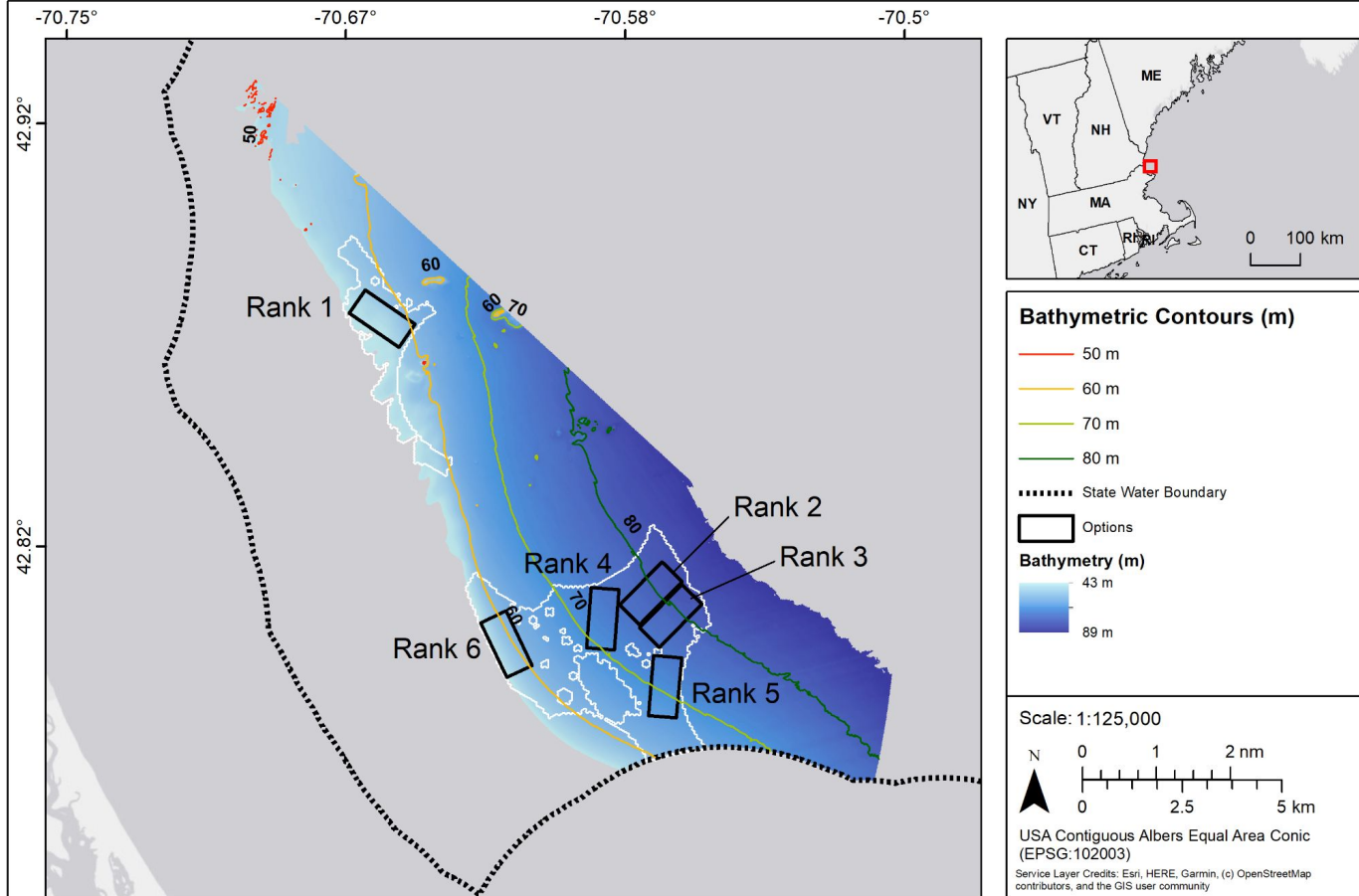


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# Bathymetry



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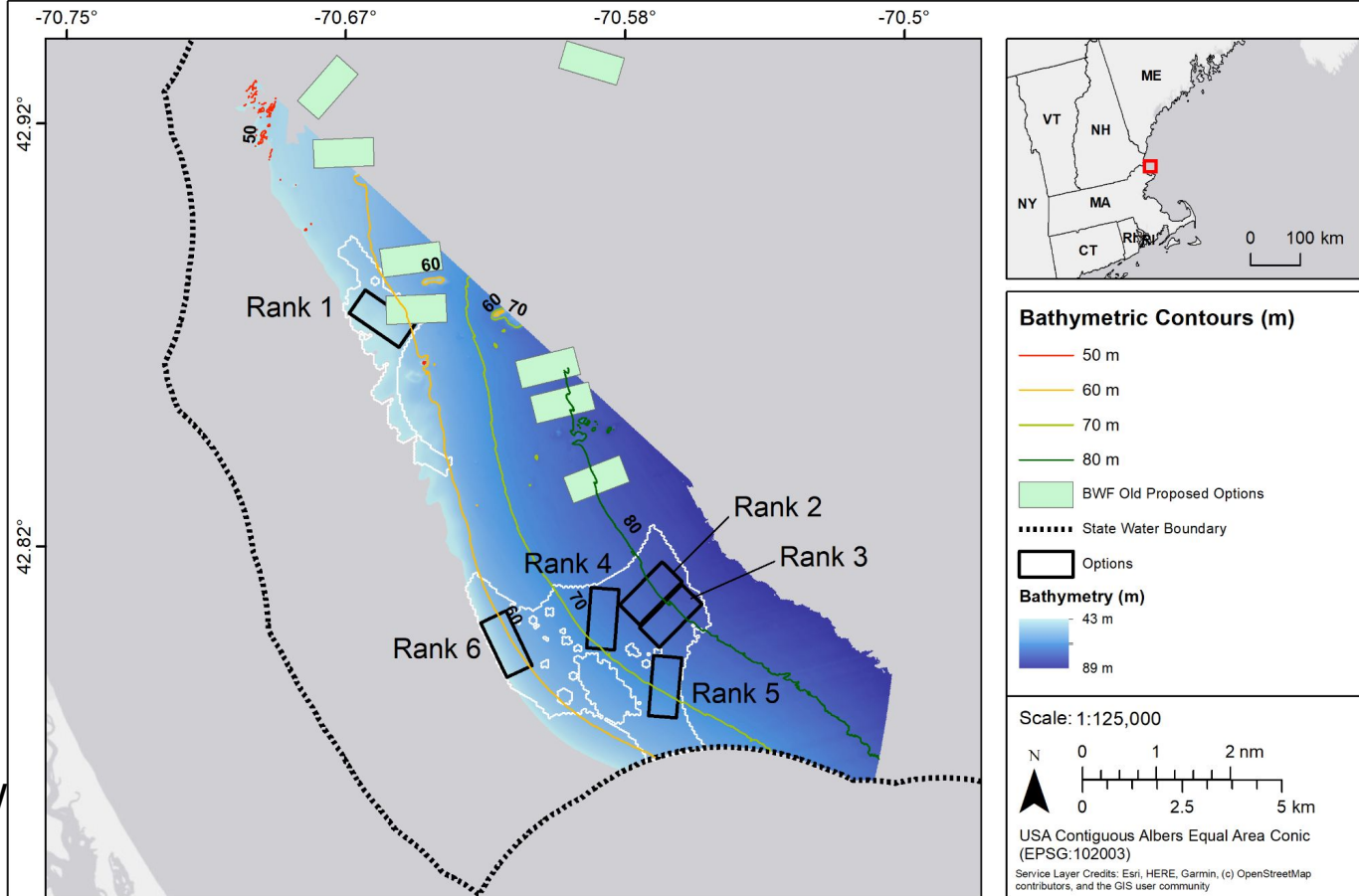
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# Comparison to Original analysis

None of the newly proposed options are near any location where Cod spawning has been recorded\*

\*Does not mean cod spawning could not occur in any of the new options



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# Site 1-1

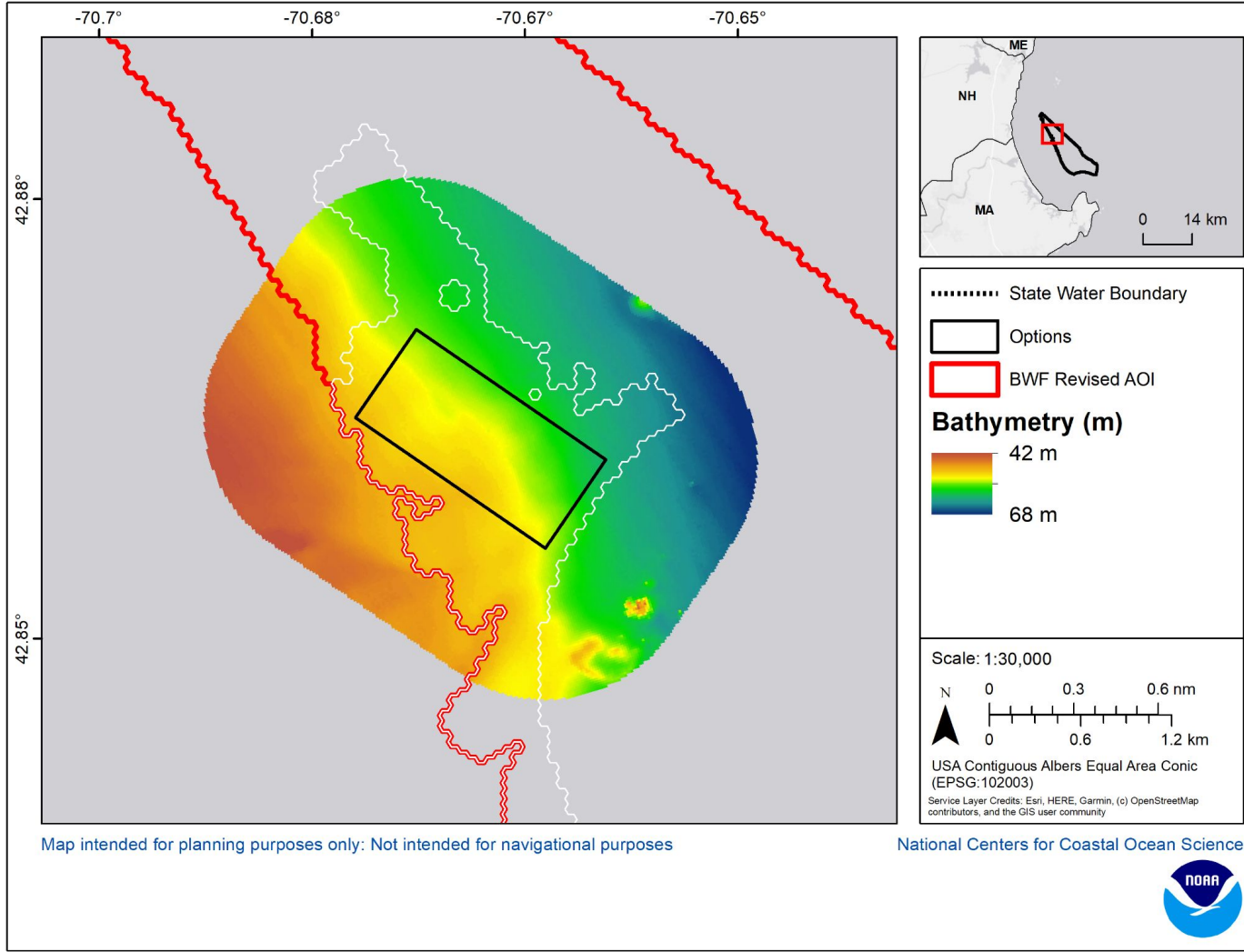
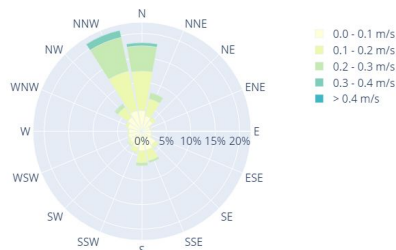
Only site in North Cluster

Near potential  
Hardbottom

Shallowest of sites

Lower vessel fishing  
effort than most  
other sites

Current Speed Percent Occurrence at 15-20m Depth

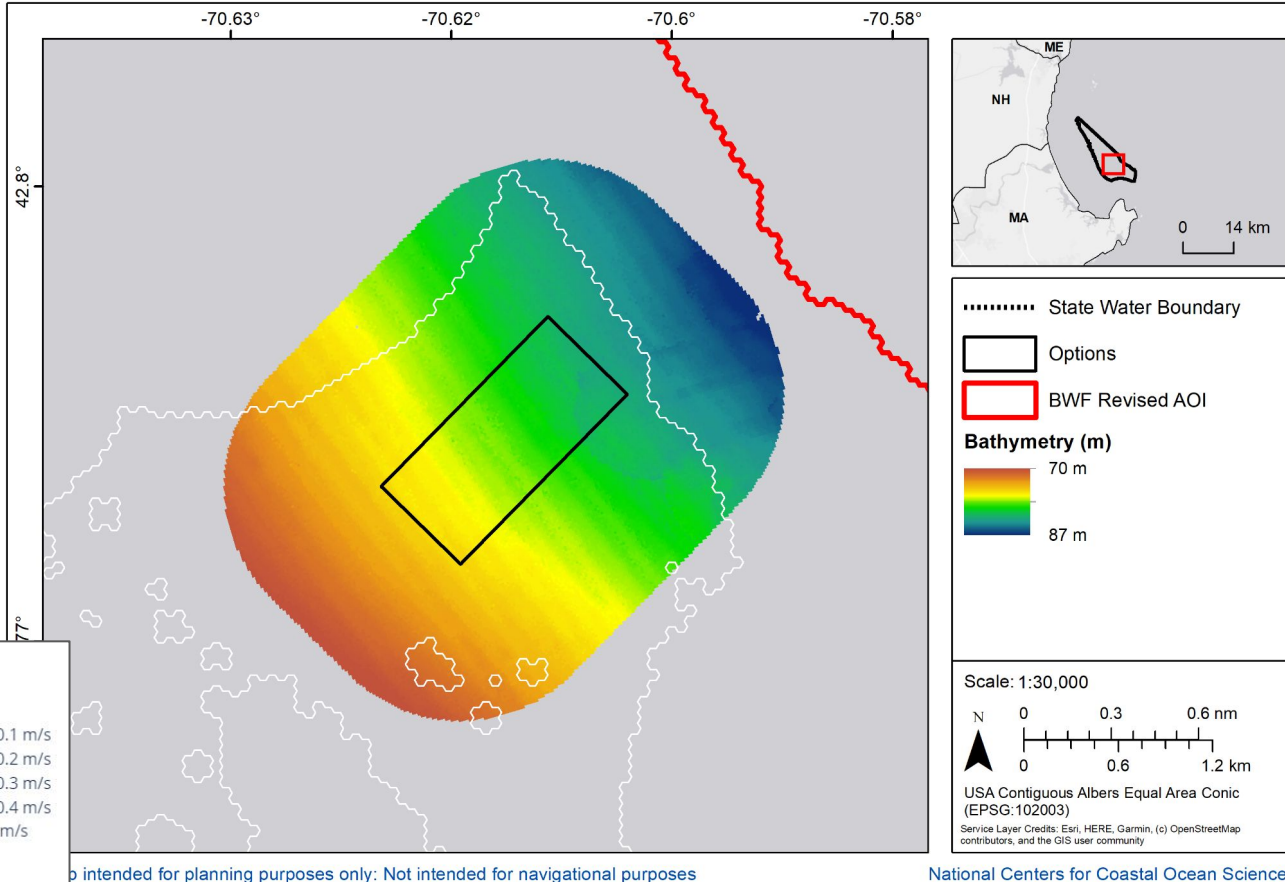
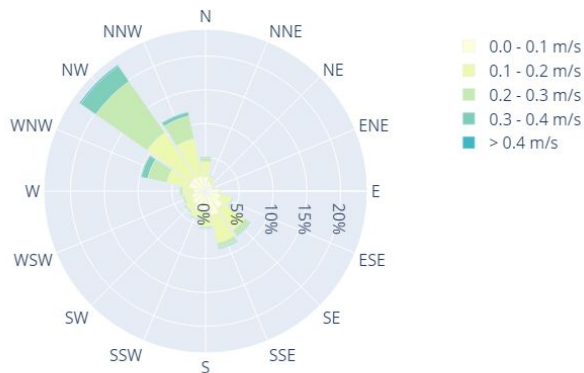


# Site 2-1

Ideal site between high vessel traffic and high fishing transits

Deeper site, perpendicular to current

Current Speed Percent Occurrence at 15-20m Depth



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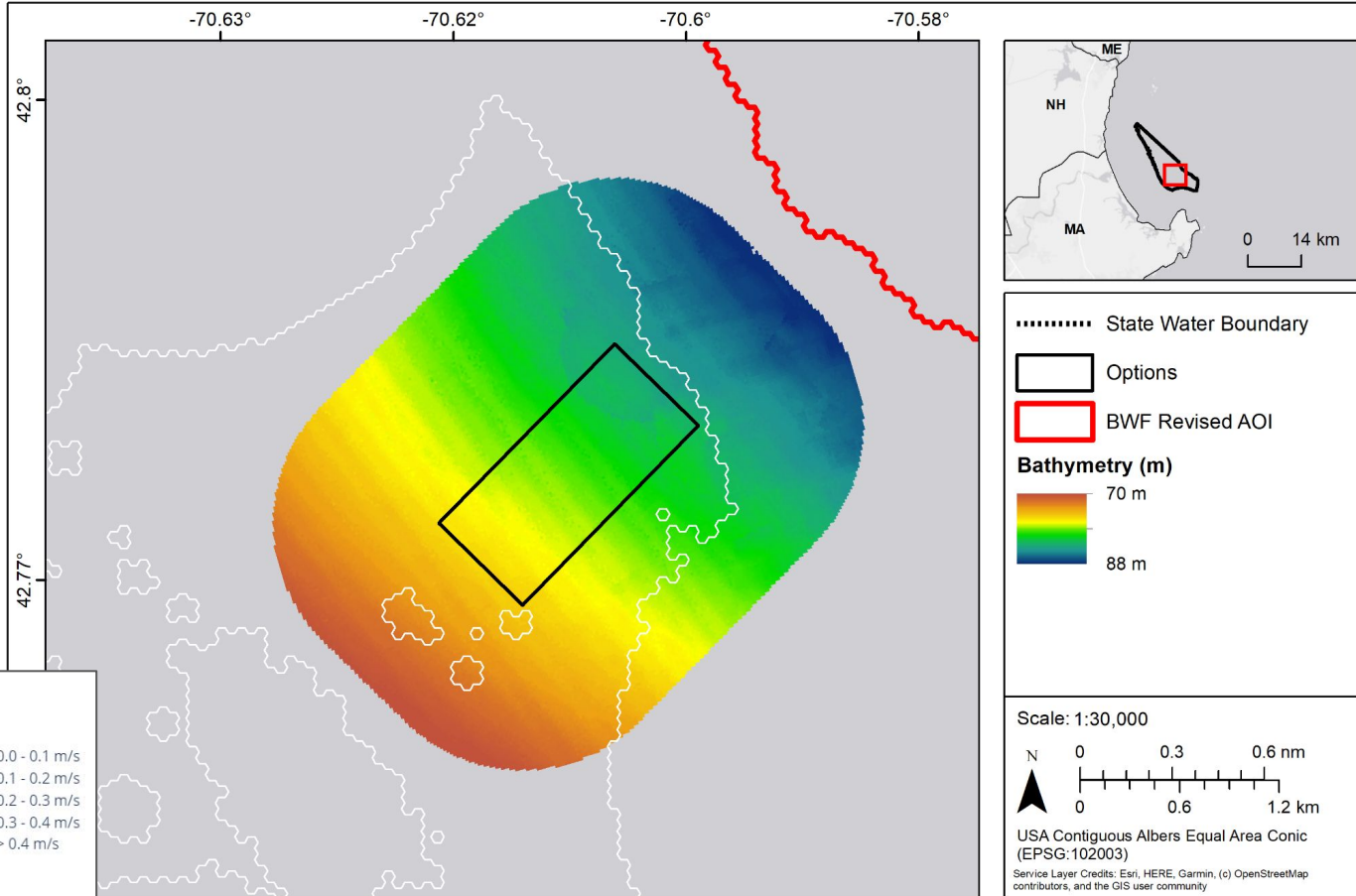
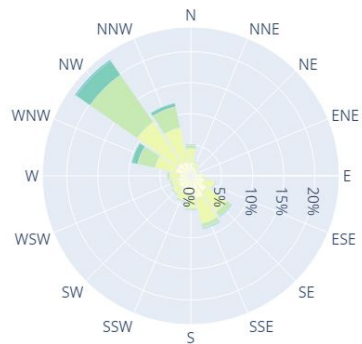


# Site 2-2

Ideal site between high vessel traffic and high fishing transits

Deeper site, perpendicular to current

Current Speed Percent Occurrence at 15-20m Depth

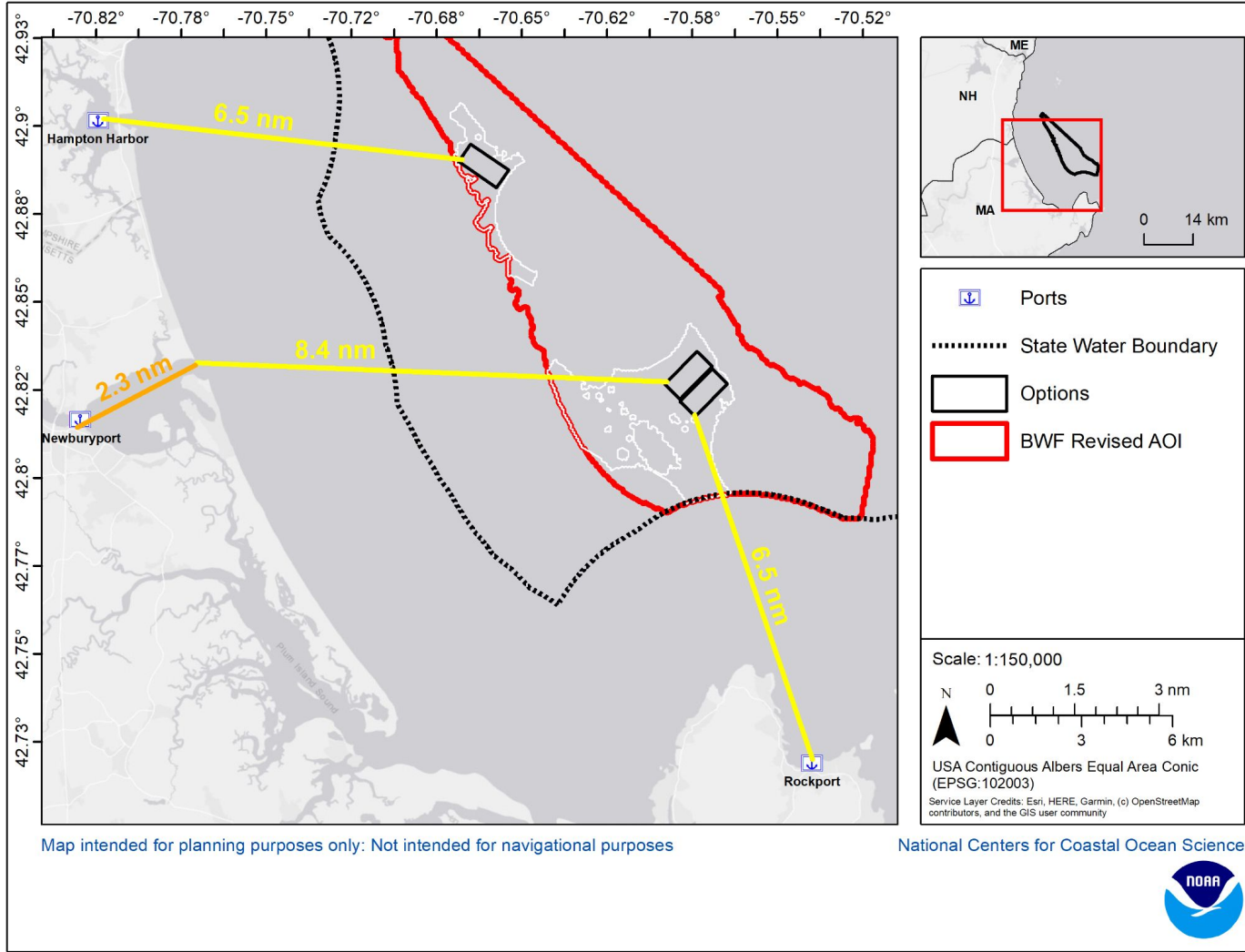


Intended for planning purposes only: Not intended for navigational purposes

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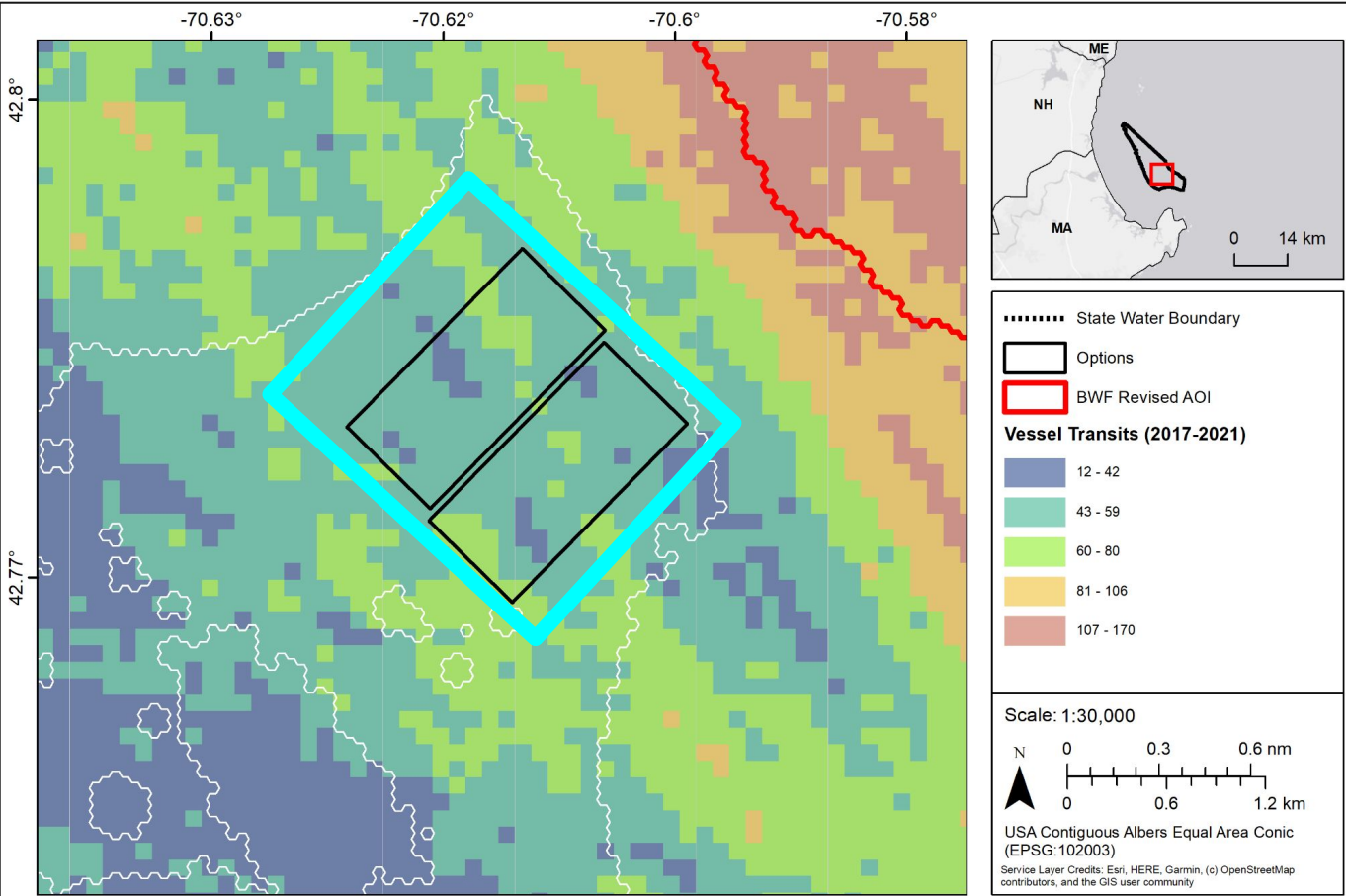


# Distance to ports



# Spacing of 2-1 and 2-2

Adjustment of spacing between sites could be performed if needed



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